



# KENT ON SUNDAY

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# CUTS COULD FORCE POLICE TO FOCUS ON CRIME HOT SPOTS

## New chief faces tough decisions to make £53m of savings

**EXCLUSIVE**By **STEVE KNIGHT**

TROUBLE-hit communities may steal bobbies from towns with lower crime rates once Kent Police learn the full extent of planned Government spending cuts.

Chief Constable Ian Learmonth revealed this week the county force will have no option but to slash 1,500 jobs if the Home Office removes 20 per cent of its funding – the equivalent of about £53 million over the next four years.

He told KOS Media that every aspect of his budget needed to be analysed as a result, and it made good business sense to deploy officers where they were needed most.

The decision could result in the more trouble-free areas like Sevenoaks losing some of their officers to crime hot spots such as Gillingham and Margate.

Mr Learmonth also revealed the force may have to scrap or combine some of its six county divisions in an attempt to save even more money from the budget.

"The decisions on where resources will be allocated will be based on demand and not historical statistics," he said.

"It's going to be done in a scientific way and we will carry out the proper analysis to determine where we place our resources to get the best results.

"We would be foolish to put lots of officers where there isn't the demand – it's just business sense.

"If I was running a factory and one part of that factory produced 50 per cent of my product, then you would expect me to put 50 per cent of my staff there.

"Therefore, if another part only produced 10 per cent then I would only put 10 per cent of my staff there."

When asked if the plans might upset residents in quieter areas who still pay the same

## Art as a lifeline

Martin Clunes is among the celebrities who have created postcard-sized art to be auctioned to help raise money for the RNLI

FULL STORY INSIDE

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

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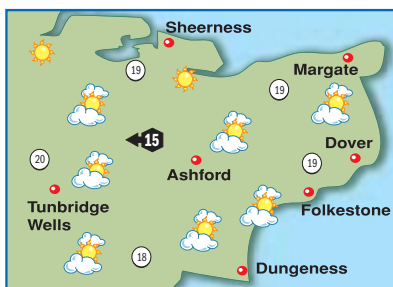


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## Kent today



**TODAY:** Staying largely dry with sunny periods and variable amounts of patchy cloud. Light to moderate east to north-easterly winds. Near normal temperatures. Max temp 17-20C (63-68F). **TONIGHT:** Dry with largely clear skies. A few mist patches. Moderate easterly winds. Min temp 8-11C (46-52F).

## Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	fair	15	59	London	fair	21	70
Belfast	cloudy	18	64	Liverpool	fair	21	70
Birmingham	fair	20	68	Manchester	fair	20	68
B'mouth	fair	21	70	Newcastle	fair	17	63
Bristol	fair	19	66	Norwich	sun	19	66
Cardiff	fair	20	68	Oxford	fair	20	68
Cork	rain	17	63	Southsea	sun	21	70
Edinburgh	fair	18	64	S'hampton	fair	20	68
Glasgow	fair	19	66	Southport	fair	20	68
Isle of Man	fair	18	64	Swansea	fair	19	66
Leeds	fair	18	64	Torquay	fair	19	66

## Sun & moon

Sunrise	6.14am	Sunset	7.33pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	1.56am	Moonsset	5.52pm	7.33pm to 6.15am

## High Tides

	today	tomorrow
	ht (m)	ht (m)
Dover	09.06 5.7 21.31 6.0	10.04 6.2 22.24 6.4
Margate	09.50 4.1 22.27 4.4	10.58 4.4 23.26 4.7
St Mary's	02.27 4.5 14.57 4.9	03.30 5.0 15.54 5.4

## Week ahead

<b>monday</b> Dry and sunny. max 20C min 12C	<b>thursday</b> Heavy showers. max 19C min 11C
<b>tuesday</b> Showery rain. max 19C min 12C	<b>friday</b> Cloudy with rain. max 19C min 11C
<b>wednesday</b> Patchy rain. max 19C min 11C	<b>saturday</b> Light rain. max 19C min 11C

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# Chief insists neighbourhood policing will be maintained

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

level of police council tax, Mr Learmonth said: "It's not about officers; it's about the level of service a community receives. Everywhere in Kent will receive a police service."

Earlier this year Chancellor George Osborne asked ministers to draw up plans for spending cuts of 25 per cent and 40 per cent, but the final figures will not be revealed until the Comprehensive Spending Review is published next month.

Mr Learmonth revealed that although Kent Police had only laid out plans should it receive a 20 per cent cut, it had also modelled for savings of 17.5 per cent and 25 per cent.

"We've not been given any Government figures at all yet," he added. "All we've been told is to be prepared for significant cuts."

"If it turns out to be less than 20 per cent then that gives us some extra options. If it's worse then it's much easier for us to gear up than it is to start again from scratch."

"We've had to come up with something because we can't afford to wait until October 22. People were starting to speculate about jobs so I thought it was best to get things out into the open. I'm hoping the cuts will turn out to be less than 20 per cent, but if it's as

much as 40 per cent then that will be a huge challenge for us."

Kent Police employs 3,728 officers and 2,932 civilians including community support officers. If the force loses 20 per cent of its funding then about 1,000 civilian and 500 police posts will be axed, albeit mostly through natural wastage and retirement.

Mr Learmonth said the main difference the public would see in that scenario would be the probable axing of some of the management structures – the six regional areas the force is currently split into.

He had already hinted upon his appointment in July that the number of superintendents and chief superintendents may be cut along the same lines.

"The bedrock is neighbourhood policing and that's something I want to maintain as much as possible," he added. "But the public will understand that if you take £53m out of the budget then things will inevitably change."

Apart from 'priority' departments including



**CUTS: Chief Constable Ian Learmonth**

education and the Ministry of Justice, all other government departments have been asked to draw up plans for spending cuts of 25 per cent and 40 per cent.

Kent Police are currently in the middle of a huge restructuring programme, and in July announced that nearly 200 police recruits had been told their places had been cancelled.

"I was surprised policing didn't get ring-fenced in some way, particularly when you consider some of the departments that were," Mr Learmonth said. "The public have come to expect a high-quality police service and if you asked what their priorities were then I'm reasonably confident policing would be up there."

"However, it's right that we take our fair share of cuts and take a look at our business." Meanwhile, Kent Police Authority chairwoman Ann Barnes has described the scale of the potential cuts as "shocking".

She said: "Until now I've always given my personal assurance there would be no job losses. However, I cannot give that any more as cuts of this magnitude will have an impact on the policing service."

"There will be hard choices but we will be as transparent and open as possible with regards to the decisions we will have to make."

# Balls: I'll fight for Kent

LABOUR leadership candidate Ed Balls has vowed to get the party re-established on Kent's political map by battling the coalition's deep spending cuts, *writes Marijke Cox.*

The shadow education secretary said he is the candidate people know "in their heads and their hearts", and he believes he can bring Labour's vision and policies to fruition in the county if he wins the leadership race.

Speaking to KOS Media ahead of a visit to Gillingham on Thursday, Mr Balls said as leader he would take on the coalition and show people there is an alternative to the cuts.

"We need to deal with the deficit, but not through cuts to public services," he said. "I want to see investment in jobs and affordable housing and stop the unfair VAT rise."

"I'm very concerned about the coalition making cuts to the Future Jobs Fund – we need to invest in jobs for people."

"I think people in Kent want jobs and decent housing and if I was leader I would push to have these."



**VOW: Ed Balls says he'll fight the coalition's cuts if he's elected as the new Labour leader**

He added: "There are difficult decisions to make in relation to the economy, but making some of these cuts is not the way."

The 43-year-old was the fourth leadership candidate to come to the county since May's general election.

Former foreign secretary David Miliband went to Medway just weeks after Kent's Tory whitewash, and two months later his brother Ed, the former energy secretary, visited.

The siblings are the frontrunners in the

battle to succeed former PM Gordon Brown.

Former health secretary Andy Burnham also visited, speaking to party members in Gillingham at the beginning of last month.

Backbencher Diane Abbott is the only contender not to have so far ventured to the county.

Mr Balls said: "Kent's former Labour MPs were good, but I think people had the feeling the party would not do enough for them."

"In fact, if you look at what Labour has done in this county, like getting NHS waiting lists down from 18 months to 18 weeks it shows what this party can do. With Labour people see real improvements in local investment."

Mr Balls said he thinks many supporters voted for the Lib Dems in the general election, which led to the downfall of his party.

"After seeing what cuts Government is going to make, there are a lot of people out there thinking the Lib Dems have been high-jacked by Nick Clegg, who has got into bed with the Tory enemy."

Mr Balls said the Labour leadership race has been done with camaraderie and each contender wants to push Labour's policies forward.

• **Turn to page eight to discover who Kent's former Labour MPs are backing.**

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## M6 toll charges 'show crossing sell-off should be regulated'

INFLATION-busting charges on the M6 toll road are proof that motorists need to be protected in any sale of the Dartford crossing, campaigners warn.

In October the previous Labour government announced plans to offload the crossing to the private sector as part of a portfolio of "non-financial assets", but the new Con-Lib coalition has yet to make a decision on its fate.

Should the sale get the go-ahead, the Campaign for Better Transport has warned against giving whoever purchases the development the power to set toll charges as high as they like.

This week the group published its report on the M6 toll road in the West Midlands, where motorists were hit with above-inflation price increases as a result of its private owner losing money.

Roads campaigner Richard George said: "It's really important any sale of the Dartford crossing is regulated, and the Government should learn lessons from the M6 toll road.

"It was built to help reduce congestion on the M6 and started off at £2 to use, which people thought was good value.

"But what happened afterwards was that every year the company which owns it raised the toll above inflation because it wasn't making as much money as it thought it would.

### Promised

"It now costs £5 to use the road, just six years after it was opened. If such a situation was to occur at Dartford then it could be a lot worse, because most people don't really have an option but to use the crossing."

When the QEII Bridge was built almost 20 years ago, the government promised motorists they would no longer be charged to cross the Thames once the cost of construction was met.

However, the tolls remained once the debt was cleared in 2003, and in 2008 road-users were even hit with increased charges at certain times of the day.

Mr George warned that congestion and pollution at the crossing – both of which are already huge problems – could also get worse if it is sold to a private company.

"One of the major issues that arose from our study of the M6 toll road was that there was lots of concern from people living locally that the operators had been encouraging more development in an attempt to increase traffic," he said.

"Obviously having more people paying the toll is good for them, but such a situation at Dartford would be bad for the M25 and the surrounding roads. The needs of a private company are often very different to the needs of local people, so the Government is going to have to strike a balance."

A Department for Transport spokeswoman said no decisions would be made regarding the future of the Dartford crossing until after the comprehensive spending review has been published next month.

To view, search 'celebrity' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



**Dave Lee's Happy Holidays charity holds its celebrity golf classic fundraiser this weekend.**  
See page 16 for more on the event.

## Celebrity's anger at 'rude' letter from 'breastfeeding bullies'

# NHS trust apologises to new mum Denise

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

DENISE Van Outen has been offered an apology from her local NHS trust after receiving a "rude" letter about her decision to stop breastfeeding.

The former Big Breakfast host, who lives with husband Lee Mead at a £1.4 million property near Ashford, hit out at NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent after its publicity team latched onto comments that she quit breastfeeding because she was worried about the paparazzi snapping her in public.

The 36-year-old said she received a "very detailed personal letter" about her decision, as well as a pro-breastfeeding coffee mug.

Writing on the social networking site Twitter, Van Outen said: "Thanks to NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent for my 'Keep Calm and Carry On Breastfeeding' mug. How very rude! I'm sick to the teeth of the breastfeeding bullies. BACK OFF!"

And in a later post she added: "Betsy is a very healthy, happy baby. Sleeping through, too! Mum and daughter are doing just fine.

"Thank you NHS for your concern. They don't know my situation, only what they've read, which isn't the full story.

"They sent me a mug suggesting Lee should have brought me tea in bed. So rude!

"Thanks for the support, tweeters. My hubby is reading a book to our very happy



**SPEAKING OUT: Mum Denise Van Outen**

baby at the moment. I would rather he did that than make me a cup of tea."

Van Outen, who was previously engaged to

Jamiroquai frontman Jay Kay, is currently preparing for a role in a West End musical production of Legally Blonde.

She gave birth to daughter Betsy on May 1 and is said to have switched to bottle-feeding after just three weeks because she was apprehensive about being snapped in public – and because people kept tutting at her.

In response to the backlash, a trust spokesman said: "Our Keep Calm and Carry On campaign is all about encouraging mums to breastfeed where possible.

"It was launched in March to raise awareness of the benefits of breastfeeding for babies and the fact it is now illegal to ask mums to stop breastfeeding in public.

### Natural

"We totally understand how Denise feels because a lot of mums tell us they feel self-conscious in public, and they don't have her celebrity status.

"However, breastfeeding is the most natural thing in the world and women should not be made to feel uncomfortable, because it's so good for mum and baby.

"We're sorry if we upset Denise and Lee. They are obviously great parents and we wish them all the best for the future.

"We've had an amazing response to our campaign and it's definitely got people talking. It's also helped us to get the message out there that women who want to breastfeed should keep calm and carry on."

News and sport updated daily online  
[www.kentnews.co.uk](http://www.kentnews.co.uk)

## Sponsorship in a roundabout way

A CONTRACT to manage the sponsorship of roundabouts and boundary signs has been put out for tender.

Kent County Council hopes to raise tens of thousands of pounds a year from the scheme and is developing a framework that will also be made available to other publicly-funded organisations.

Cabinet member Cllr Roger Gough said: "It's chiefly to do with sponsorship for small and medium-sized businesses and is something district councils have done in the past.

"It's hard to say exactly how much might be raised from the scheme because one of the things up for discussion is what share of the income will be kept by the firm which manages it for us. It's important for us to raise revenue, but such a scheme is also beneficial for local enterprises."

## Police complaints

KENT Police is fourth in a national league table of the number of officers with three or more complaints made against them by the public. According to figures obtained by the BBC, the county constabulary had 140 who fell into that category last year.

However, Chief Constable Ian Learmonth said he was not concerned by the report.

"The data needs more research and understanding," he said. "We have a robust professional standards department and for any officer who hits that trigger point of three complaints, there is automatic intervention. Although we take every complaint seriously, many turn out to be unsubstantiated because a lot of people complain just because they can."

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**Mr T. D. - August**

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**Mrs J.S. - August**

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**Mrs G. G. - July**

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## Rugby scandal medic reprimanded at disciplinary hearing

# 'Bloodgate' doctor is let off with warning

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

THE doctor at the centre of the 'bloodgate' scandal has been let off with a warning after a disciplinary hearing into her role in helping a rugby player cover up a faked injury.

Picture: GETTY



CUT TO THE LIP: Dr Wendy Chapman

Dr Wendy Chapman, who lives in Sevenoaks and has been suspended from her job as an A&E consultant at Maidstone Hospital, was told by a General Medical Council (GMC) panel after a two-week inquiry that her "conduct was unacceptable and must not be repeated".

She has now resigned from her job.

The 46-year-old avoided being struck off the doctors' register, but the formal warning will remain on the List of Registered Medical Practitioners for five years.

It came after Harlequins' winger Tom Williams bit a fake blood capsule as they were losing 6-5 in last year's Heineken Cup quarter-final against Leinster so his team could make a tactical substitution.

Dr Chapman, who was the match day doctor, cut his lip with a scalpel in a bid to cover up the bogus blood injury.

She went on to give evidence to an inquiry of the European Rugby Cup (ERC) committee and gave a false account of what had happened.

### Dishonest

In their findings, the GMC panel said: "Such conduct was found to be dishonest and was likely to bring the profession into disrepute."

The statement continued: "Your dishonest conduct was a significant departure from good medical practice and has marred the reputation of the medical profession... You were at the time unwell and the context in which the events took place were wholly exceptional.

"Nevertheless, your conduct was unacceptable and must not be repeated."

She was warned that any repetition of such behaviour would be likely to result in a finding of "impaired fitness to practise".

A spokesman for Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust said: "We will look at the GMC's official response, but as Dr Chapman said in her evidence at the hearing, she no longer works at Maidstone Hospital."

The GMC panel at the hearing was told that Dr Chapman had been suffering from

a "major depressive disorder" before the incident. She was also awaiting the result of breast cancer tests.

Dr Chapman had been unwell for at least a year and unable to work before she was officially suspended from her job at Maidstone A&E in September last year.

After the hearing concluded, her solicitor said the last 18 months had been a "nightmare for Dr Chapman and her family".

She is currently recovering from breast cancer surgery that she had in July and would be concentrating on her further treatment, he said.

As a result of the 'bloodgate' scandal, Harlequins was fined £259,000, their director of rugby, Dean Richards, was banned for three years and Williams was given a four-month ban after an investigation by tournament organiser European Rugby Cup (ERC).

Williams was banned from playing rugby for a year by the ERC in July, 2009, but his punishment was reduced after he appealed and gave evidence against Richards and physiotherapist Steph Brennan, who was given a two-year suspension.

It was during the appeal in August that the 26-year-old said Dr Chapman deliberately cut his lip after he asked her to do it.

## Councillor on trial

A DISTRICT councillor has been charged with drink-driving for the second time in two weeks. Conservative Ewen Cameron, 52, lives in Westgate, on the Isle of Thanet.

On Thursday, he was charged with being in charge of a motor vehicle while over the limit. The charge relates to an incident on August 11.

Cllr Cameron has represented Bradstowe ward in Broadstairs for three years. He will appear before magistrates on Friday, September 10, to face both charges.

Last week he told KOS Media he did not intend to resign following his first charge, on Saturday, August 21. However, he has stated he will stand down when his current term expires.

He said: "I have no intention of standing down. I think a by-election at this time would be most unfortunate. It does not affect my ability to be a councillor."

Cllr Cameron was arrested on August 21 in a hire car outside Tesco Extra in Margate Road, Broadstairs.

To view, search 'Marlowe' @ [yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)



This year's Marlowe panto is Robin Hood starring John Thompson. Julie Maddocks spoke to the man in charge, Paul Hendy

## Schools' brain bug alert

PARENTS are being alerted to an increased threat from meningitis as children return to school after the summer break.

NHS West Kent warned the disease was "a very serious illness" and could develop rapidly, urging everyone to be aware of the signs and symptoms. Charity Meningitis UK said the close confines of the classroom puts youngsters more at risk from the brain bug.

Meningitis can kill in less than four hours and leads to more deaths in the under fives than any other infectious disease.

Survivors are often left with severe after-effects including brain damage, sight and hearing loss, limb loss and scarring.

Val Harmon, the primary care trust's infection control nurse, said: "Meningitis can be a very serious illness which develops rapidly.

"It's important that people everywhere, especially parents of young children, are aware of the signs and symptoms.

"These include severe headache, raised temperature, difficulty or pain when looking at light, neck stiffness, vomiting, a rash of red-purple spots which does not fade when pressed, drowsiness or confusion, or back or

joint pains. Not all these symptoms may show at once. If people are concerned, they should seek advice from their GP."

Meningitis UK said teenagers and students as well as younger children were also more vulnerable to the bug. Meningitis UK urged parents to ensure they were aware of the symptoms and to trust their instincts.

There is still no vaccine for the most common and deadly form of the disease, meningitis B. Steve Dayman, the charity's chief executive, lost his own son to the disease.

He said: "Many parents wrongly believe their child is protected from meningitis. We urge them to be extra vigilant as children return to the crowded environment of school, where germs spread more easily.

"Meningitis and septicaemia can be hard to recognise early on because initial symptoms are similar to many mild childhood diseases.

"It is vital parents trust their instincts and seek treatment as quickly as possible. In the absence of a vaccine, it could be the difference between life and death."

Visit [www.meningitisuk.org](http://www.meningitisuk.org) or call 0117 373 7373 for more information.

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ENGLAND will not host the 2018 World Cup, according to a majority of kentnews.co.uk readers who took part in an online poll. Fifty-seven per cent of those who voted

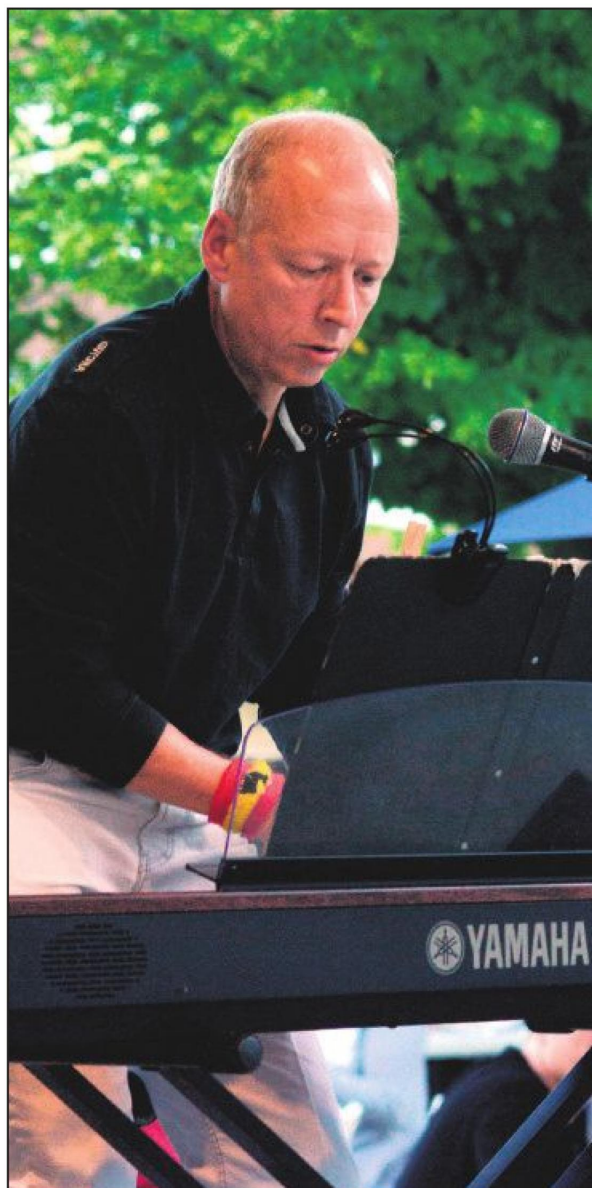
believe football won't be coming home in eight years' time. Russia is regarded as England's main challenger in the race to host the Fifa football tournament.



# THE INTERVIEW



BY JANE CONNOLLY



**STAGE PRESENCE:** Pianist John Harriman's career change fears have been allayed by the good reaction to his Heads South band

## Laying down the law and taking up jazz piano is right key change

SWAPPING law for Latin rhythms appears to have hit the right note for jazz pianist John Harriman.

For the last two years, the former lawyer from Tunbridge Wells has been leading the jazz salsa band Heads South and their debut album, *Record Flight*, will be released on October 1.

One track has already been selected for Jazz FM's playlist and the group has at least one celebrity fan in the form of rocker Rod Stewart.

But giving up the high-flying lifestyle of a lawyer to become a jazz musician wasn't without its challenges. "Self-perception can be an issue when you change hats," he said. "There's a certain aura to being a corporate lawyer and you mix with a certain crowd."

"When you change to something like a jazz musician, it's totally foreign to what you are accustomed to."

"A fundamental change such as that is very difficult, but as long as you have the self-confidence to pull

through that, it can work. I'm so happy now."

As head chorister at Westminster Cathedral, he discovered a love of music at a young age but his parents persuaded him to study law at university. Disappointed by the lack of musical influence at the University of Liverpool, he later went to California where he found a much more vibrant live scene.

### Pressure

"I played in piano bars for a few years, but the pressure of trying to keep an apartment got to me, so I went off and studied law, becoming a US lawyer as well," he said.

"I was gigging in my 20s, but found the pressure of work in New York, San Francisco and London squeezed public music performance out of my timetable."

"I came to the point where I realised I was getting fed up with being part of the money-making big business community. I wanted to be creative, so thought I would try my hand at it."

"Since I made that decision, it's been going down a storm."

After 20 years in law, Harriman – who is now in his 50s – decided to make the leap and has been working as a musician for six years.

His love of Cuban rhythms has been enhanced by the heritage of his Spanish wife and last November the band undertook a successful tour of Spain.

Given the early reaction to the album, it looks as though Harriman's initial concerns about reaching a professional standard have proved unfounded.

"Once you start to create your own sound, it's rewarding from a creative standpoint but you also have to have something to say to the scene. That was a challenge and I was fortunate enough to rise to it."

Earlier this year, Heads South performed at Rod Stewart's after-show party at the O2 and clearly made a big impression on the singer.

"I was on the beach in Spain four weeks ago and he called us back to do a second after-show party, but we couldn't do it."

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# Mayors drive up town hall fuel bills

**Councils spending thousands ferrying figureheads to and from civic events, but is it paying off?**

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

THEY visit your flower show, lay wreaths on Memorial Day and welcome visitors to your town from far and wide, but are our mayors really value for money?

Unlike those with undeniable decision-making powers like London Mayor Boris Johnson, the men and women we see bedecked in gold at various civic events are little more than ceremonial figureheads for the councils they represent.

But that doesn't stop local authorities spending thousands of pounds every year ferrying them about the county in gas-guzzling vehicles the likes of which most of us can only dream of owning.

Information provided to KOS Media through requests made under the Freedom of Information Act shows that Kent's district and borough councils spend anywhere between £1,000 and £7,000 per year on petrol expense claims for chauffeur-driven vehicles alone.

When you factor in the wages of the drivers



**WE'RE WORTH IT:** Mayor of Dartford Patrick Coleman says mayors do vital charity work and the role should be upheld

themselves – who sometimes perform other civic duties – the annual costs soar into the tens of thousands of pounds.

For instance, Medway council spent a total of £15,663 on mayoral fuel costs over the last five years, but £231,513 on the combined salaries of two civic and ceremonial officers. Maidstone council spent £12,566 on petrol and £210,104 on wages, and Swale council £11,619 on petrol and more than £75,000 on wages.

"The use of chauffeur-driven, mayoral or civic cars is a luxury that will not go down well with taxpayers, many of whom are struggling with the rising cost of living," said Emma Boon of the Taxpayers' Alliance.

"There will be situations where council staff legitimately have to claim for petrol, but local authorities in Kent must do everything they can to keep these costs down."

Mayors have formed an important part of

## County Hall's £200,000 chauffeur bill

KENT County Council has spent almost £200,000 on chauffeurs' wages since April, 2005.

Despite not having a mayor to send to various civic events, the authority still provides transport for group managing director Katherine Kerswell, council chairman Bill Hayton and other cabinet members and senior councillors.

It also spends an average of £9,400 a year on petrol for chauffeur-driven cars.

A KCC spokesman said: "We are committed to providing the most cost-effective means of

transport for elected members and senior officers.

"For many journeys the car is often the most economical means of travel compared with other forms of transport, such as taxis and trains.

"We remain confident our small fleet of cars, with drivers employed on a casual basis, represents good value for money and is appropriate given the demands placed on elected members.

"If the cars were not provided, there would be an increase in costs."



**BILL HAYTON**

community life in Britain for hundreds of years, but only a select few have any real power.

And despite sometimes chairing their local council meetings and getting to dress in robes and chains, they are actually just like any other member of the local authority on which they serve.

Cllr Patrick Coleman has been a member of Dartford council for the past 35 years and is currently enjoying his third stint as mayor.

He told KOS Media that although some members of the public do not support the role, most were unaware of the good it does for the community and the money it raises for charity.

"There will always be people who view mayors a bit like the royal family and say it's not money well spent," he said.

"But in my opinion it's not a great deal of money and it keeps going a tradition that has always been a British way of life.

"We look to make between £10,000 and £20,000 every year for charity, with most of the money coming from civic events that are now rarely funded by the council."

This year Cllr Coleman has pledged to raise money for the Little Buds baby unit at Darent Valley Hospital, the north-west Kent branch of the Life counselling service for women, Bexley and Dartford Samaritans, and the House of Mercy homeless hostel.

And despite having his fuel costs covered for him, Cllr Coleman insists his position is far from a cushy number.

"I've done it three times and at the end of every year I've been out of pocket," he said. "You've got to want to do it because it's a totally different role to being a local councillor or cabinet member, which I was before.

"I do it because I feel I have the ability to add something to the borough as its mayor."

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## Nationalist stages rural comic event

PROTECT Kent is staging a fundraising evening of "wise absurdities" with its president – the artist, musician and 'Kent nationalist' Graham Clarke.

Always Leave Them Wanting Less is an evening of amusing poetry, re-enactments of historical episodes taken from Mr Clarke's book History of England, comedy music, costumes, artefacts and much more.

Protect Kent: The Kent Branch of The Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) is a charity that campaigns for a sustainable future for the English countryside.

The event is being held in Challock, near Ashford, on Monday, September 13. For information and tickets, priced £30, including drinks and a fish and chip supper, call Gemma on 01303 815813.

# Miliband brothers win backing of the county's defeated Labour MPs

KENT'S former Labour MPs have thrown their weight behind the Miliband brothers as the siblings battle it out to succeed Gordon Brown as leader of the Labour party, *writes Marijke Cox.*

With ballot papers being sent out this week to those eligible to vote, the majority of the county's former parliamentarians are opting for David or Ed Miliband.

The brothers, who have visited the county separately in recent months, are up against



CANDIDATES: Ed (left) and David Miliband

former health secretary Andy Burnham, ex-education minister Ed Balls, and backbencher Diane Abbott.

The eldest of the brothers, David, 45, who was foreign secretary for the three years running up to the 2010 general election, was the first to enter the race after Mr Brown stepped down as Prime Minister in May.

As a front-runner alongside his 40-year-old brother, Mr Miliband has garnered support from party members following his visit to the county just weeks after the general election.

Ex-Chatham and Aylesford MP Jonathan Shaw and former Thanet South MP Stephen Ladyman are backing the hopeful.

Mr Shaw spoke on Wednesday at a Labour Party meeting in support of David Miliband, who he described as "dynamic and intellectual" earlier this year.

Dr Ladyman also revealed to KOS Media that he would be voting for him, saying Mr Miliband would bring confidence back to the party and make it easier for party members to educate voters in the South East.

"People here are very aspirational," said Dr

Ladyman. "They want to do the best for their family and the freedom to get on with that."

Before his election to Parliament in 2001, David Miliband was Tony Blair's head of policy and was credited for playing a major part in the Labour party's landslide victory of 1997.

He served as environment secretary in 2006, and then foreign secretary a year later.

His bother Ed was one of Gordon Brown's confidants when he was Chancellor and was appointed chairman of the Treasury's council of economic advisers.

He was appointed as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Minister for the Cabinet Office, before serving as energy and climate change secretary.

The brothers were the first siblings to sit in cabinet at the same time in more than 70 years.

Former Dover and Deal MP Gwyn Prosser and ex-Medway MP Bob Marshall-Andrews revealed they would be voting for Ed Miliband.

Mr Prosser – who in May said he would back the elder brother – said: "Ed is talking about change, while David is saying much of the same."

"In terms of regeneration plans and housing in east Kent, I think Ed, as leader, would make a lot of momentous things happen."

"David is very academic, but Ed seems more human."

Former MP for Gillingham and Rainham Paul Clark, however, is backing Ed Balls.

Mr Clark said: "I believe he is the right person to get support for Labour back in Kent."

Former Dartford MP Howard Stoate and ex-Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP Derek Wyatt were unavailable for comment.

The results of the leadership contest will be announced at the party's annual conference in Manchester on September 25.

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# Illegal traveller camps to face tougher action

By **MARIJKE COX**

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

GYPSIES and travellers flouting planning rules by building illegal encampments will come under pressure from new plans unveiled by the government.

For Kent it could mean a break for residents in hard-hit areas where unauthorised camps have been set up.

Communities and local government secretary Eric Pickles revealed plans to strengthen local authorities' powers to tackle the problem, including action against unscrupulous private developers.

He said: "The majority of travellers are law-abiding citizens. But at the same time, we will not sit back and allow people to bypass the planning rules that everyone else has to abide by."

Recent figures from the Department for Communities and Local Government revealed the number of encampments was on the increase.

There are 232 legal sites provided by local councils or social landlords in Kent and Medway.

In Lenham Road in Headcorn, near Ashford, there are 12 legal sites in a space of two miles, with three illegal camps nearby.

When Labour were in power, the party pushed local authorities to ensure there were sufficient sites available for the travelling communities.

## Exploiting

But some gypsies and travellers began exploiting planning regulations to bulldoze councils into simply accepting encampments on unauthorised land.

The Human Rights Act also made it harder to evict them.

Some travellers would buy cheap plots of greenfield land – which cannot be developed – before moving mobile homes in, using the law to stop or severely delay authorities from moving them on until the homes become accepted.

Then the value of the now-potential development site can soar from £5,000 to as much as £50,000.

Matthew Knight, a senior partner at Knights Solicitors in Tunbridge Wells, has

**CAMPING IT UP:** Unlawful sites could become a thing of the past



worked on travellers' cases for 25 years.

He said: "The primary difficulty is that, while the site may have been unlawfully developed, in the majority of cases the gypsies and travellers in question are the legal owners of the land they are developing."

According to Mr Knight, local authorities do have enforcement powers where they can enter sites and remove camps, but many fear judicial challenges being made regarding human rights.

KOS Media recently revealed all 13 council leaders in Kent had teamed up to demand laws that would make it easier to stop unlawful camps.

Now, in the new plans, travellers and gypsies who "play by the rules" will get more rights and be treated the same as mobile home residents with stronger tenancy rights.

Stronger action will be taken against those failing to abide by the laws.

The Government is also looking at including traveller sites in the New Homes Bonus, where councils are given cash incentives for every new home they build.

Mr Knight said local authorities may well take advantage and increase the number of authorised sites.

Cllr Graham Gibbens, KCC cabinet member for Kent adult social services, said he welcomed the announcement that mobile home laws will be applied to publicly run traveller sites.

He said the council had for a long time believed that unauthorised developments should not be established by anyone – gypsy, traveller or from the settled community.

"In light of this, we will be looking closely at the detail of proposals to toughen up the law against such developments," he said.

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# Diabetics miss out on insulin pump option

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

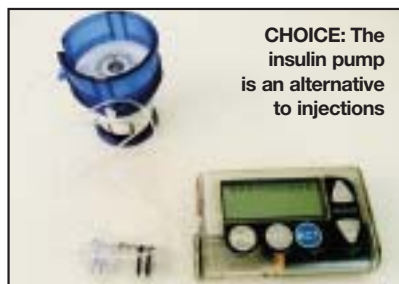
AN NHS 'postcode lottery' has been blamed for diabetes patients in Kent missing out on the full range of available treatments.

The Medical Technology Group (MTG) – a coalition of patient groups, research charities and medical manufacturers – claims only a tiny percentage of diabetics receive insulin pump therapy as an alternative to injections.

Recommended for people with type 1 diabetes, the treatment is currently used by 0.25 per cent of patients in the NHS Medway region – well below the 12 per cent national target set by the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). The Eastern and Coastal Kent figure is only moderately higher at 1.5 per cent, while the uptake at NHS West Kent stands at 5.7 per cent.

The national average is 3.9 per cent.

John Davis is the founder of awareness group Input, which is a member of the MTG.



He said: "Insulin pumps have been recommended by NICE because they are an efficient use of NHS resources and can have a dramatic impact on patients' quality of life."

Insulin pumps are small devices attached to a patient's waist which feed insulin into the body via a plastic tube when it is needed.

This is seen as especially useful when treating children, as it is preferable to injecting a certain amount of insulin in the morning when a parent does not know how active their child will be throughout the day.

While admitting the therapy is not suitable for everyone, the MTG says those who do use the treatment are generally in better health and are admitted to hospital far less often than those who receive injections, thus reducing the long-term costs to the NHS.

The uptake rate in other European states is estimated at between 10 and 20 per cent, and between 15 and 20 per cent in America.

Whitstable mother Jacqui Double says she fought for more than two years before NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent agreed to fund the treatment for her sons Tom, 11, and Joseph, 13.

She said: "I think the uptake rates in Kent are indicative of what happens when patients aren't given the full picture."

All three of Kent's primary care trusts told KOS Media they were committed to providing all available treatments for patients.

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent said it was currently funding 46 people to receive insulin pump therapy, and that it was working hard to increase provision and support.

NHS West Kent admitted it was a "lengthy and complicated" process to transfer patients to the alternative treatment, but said uptake had increased considerably over the last few years and that nobody who meets the NICE criteria is turned away.

A spokesman for NHS Medway said the uptake rate had risen to one per cent since the MTG survey was taken, and that patients work with specialists at Medway Hospital to decide which treatment will suit them best.

## Japanese delights at historic festival

THE sights and sounds of the Far East will come to Gillingham on Saturday, September 11, with the annual Will Adams Festival.

As well as celebrating Medway's links with Japan, which Adams forged on his famous voyage to the east in 1598, visitors will also be able to enjoy a taste of the Tudor England Adams would have known during his early life in Gillingham.

There will be displays and talks aboard a 27ft Tudor Jolly Boat. Visitors will be able to meet Sir Francis Drake and learn about seafaring during the Tudor period.

Other attractions include Japanese taiko drummers, Japanese games and martial arts demonstrations, children's Tudor pottery workshops, face painting, manga workshops, reiki therapy sessions, and costumed characters – including Will Adams himself.

The event is at Gillingham Park, off Canterbury Street, from 11am-4.30pm.

See [www.whatsonmedway.co.uk](http://www.whatsonmedway.co.uk).

## Claim free trees

WORLD Garden owner Tom Hart-Dyke is urging everyone to stake a claim for free trees.

Mr Hart Dyke, whose family own the World Garden at Lullingstone Castle, near Sevenoaks, praised the Kent County Council free trees scheme for promoting native species.

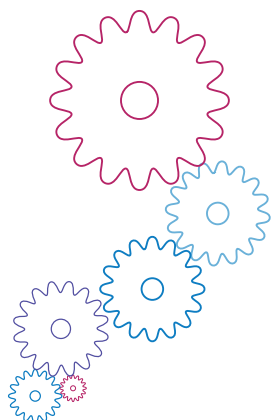
He said: "The scheme is brilliant. I would thoroughly recommend it."

"They are native trees and that encourages the wildlife into your garden."

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Saturday 18th	Sluis	£34.00
Thursday 23rd	Boulogne	£24.00
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Sunday 10th	Doctor Who Live	£56.00
Wednesday 13th	Sheffield Park & Autumn Drive	£23.00
Saturday 16th	De Panne	£20.00
Tuesday 19th	Oxford Street	£14.50
Saturday 23rd	Disney on Ice - 100 Years of Magic	£41.00
Thursday 28th	Boulogne	£24.00
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# Chance find proves to be a golden discovery

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

TWO gold bracelets unearthed after almost 3,000 years were spotted by chance.

For around 2,700 years they were buried under the Kent soil, but after a leading archaeological expert visited an excavation site, he spotted them on top of earth already moved during the big road dig.

The bracelets join some 10,000 other important finds unearthed by volunteers and experts on the East Kent Access site between Ramsgate and Sandwich, the biggest archaeological excavation in the country this year.

And all that historic 'treasure' means the experts are learning a huge amount about how people were living on the Isle of Thanet from earliest times.

The teams have found prehistoric burial monuments, Iron Age enclosures and a village that would have watched the Roman invasion, plus Saxon cemeteries, tracks and the remains of a shell-fish processing site.

These late Bronze Age bracelets date from around 700 BC. They were sitting on top of a pile of earth dug from a trench when Kent County Council principal archaeological officer Simon Mason found them while on a site visit with a small group of colleagues.

He said: "It was incredible – a really exciting find. I couldn't believe it when I saw them. It's the first time I have found gold in 20 or 30 years as an archaeologist."



**GOOD SPOT:** Simon Mason saw the gold bracelets on a mound of earth



"They looked too good to be real. I picked them up and took them over to my colleagues and said: 'What do you make of these?' They were quite tarnished to start with."

"When we cleaned them up we then realised they were something special."

It is believed they had once been worn by children and may have been worship offerings, placed near to water. They were found together, one pushed inside the other.

## Fascinating

There is evidence of a Bronze Age settlement on the find site, and five hoards of bronze objects of a similar age to the bracelets have been found in the same area.

Mr Mason added: "Their real value to me as an archaeologist though is how they contribute to the story we are putting together from our excavations on the road."

"With all the thousands of everyday objects we have dug up they are really helping to shed new light on the lives of prehistoric, Roman and Saxon people in Thanet."

Now they are being kept by Oxford Wessex Archaeology until they can be declared treasure by the north east Kent coroner.

It is hoped they will be put on display locally in future.

KCC deputy cabinet member for environment, highways and waste, Cllr David Brazier, said: "This excavation has given us a fascinating insight into how people have been living in this corner of Kent for centuries."

"The county council has given local people the opportunity to get 'hands on' experience to find out about the archaeology on their doorstep."

And Dr Andrew Fitzpatrick, from Oxford Wessex Archaeology, added: "The gold bracelets are stunning. They are stand-out finds from a huge excavation."

"A wealth of information has been recovered by everyone who helped, but the work is not finished."

"Now we have to study the findings – which is a bit like doing a jigsaw. When we have put together all the tiny pieces there will be a new picture of the history of Kent."

## Save animals to save the people, says Gale

PAKISTANI flood victims will continue to die until more attention is given to rescuing the animals they rely on, claims a long-standing Tory MP, writes **Steve Knight**.

North Thanet representative Roger Gale, who is also a trustee for the Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad (Spana), says that if mules, goats, chickens and other animals are allowed to perish as a result of the disaster, then many of Pakistan's people will soon follow.

His comments follow calls by Oxfam to commence reconstruction in the poverty-stricken nation, where some 17 million people have been affected by the floods.

Mr Gale told KOS Media that until an animal welfare presence is admitted to the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), of which Oxfam is a member, it will always be a matter of "too little, too late".

"Organisations like Spana and The Brooke are right up front working with the working animals," he said. "This is not bunny-hugging stuff. It's not about animal rights. It's the hard-nosed reality that if you save an animal's life, you can save a family's life."

"Oxfam says it's time to start reconstructing Pakistan, but there's

no-one on the DEC dealing with livestock like goats, cattle and mules – the things that enable people to work and eat."

"I'm not suggesting we should put animals before people, but at the moment charities are simply saving the lives of people who will die tomorrow unless things change."

Spana was founded in 1923, by Kate Hosali and her daughter Nina after they witnessed the mistreatment of animals on their travels through North Africa.

Today the London-based charity offers free veterinary care for more than 400,000 animals every year and also runs education and emergency programmes around the world.

Mr Gale said government intervention was needed to ensure lives were not needlessly lost.

"The DEC does good work, but it is an exclusive club that has resisted the inclusion of animal welfare representation for too long. It claims to understand the issues with animals, but it doesn't."

"I believe the time has come for Government to intervene and, in the interests of lifesaving humanity, insist that animal rescue is afforded the representation and priority its importance warrants."

## Woman cleared out her lover's bank accounts

WHEN Michelle Pussord, 39, thought her partner was cheating on her she took her revenge by stealing from his four bank accounts.

Pussord, of Water Lane, West Malling, helped herself to £18,129.06, Maidstone Magistrates were told.

She admitted four counts of theft.

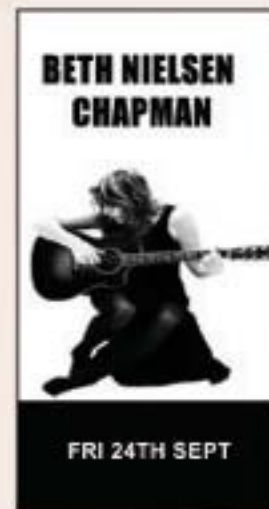
Jenny Yale, prosecuting, said Pussord met her partner Robert via the internet and swiftly changed her surname by deed poll to his, although they never married.

In June last year he found £300 missing from one of his accounts, but things came to head when he took out a bank loan in April for £14,900 and found £13,000 had been drained from it. Another account that was supposed to have more than £2,000 was left with £6.72.

Toby Burrough, defending, said his twice-married, alcoholic client thought Robert was spending money on other women.

Shortly after the discovery she left and began sleeping rough, but is now getting treatment for her alcohol problems.

She was given a four-month jail sentence, suspended for a year, plus 200 hours community work and was ordered to pay £500 compensation.



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# Great Danes scoops cool £50,000 on TV quiz show

AFTER an avalanche of near-disastrous news, one woman struck gold on Who Wants To Be A Millionaire, *writes Chris Murphy.*

Jane Danes, from Sturry, won £50,000 on the new format show broadcast on ITV last week.

The show, hosted by Chris Tarrant, saw drama and elocution teacher Jane return for a second session.

She also reads card, palms and tea leaves.

But even she couldn't see the misfortune that hit her family.

Husband Stephen, 62, works as a bricklayer after losing his career as a company director and is now battling a bad back.

She said: "He is fit, the job keeps him fit, but he has got an arthritic spine and although it's very debilitating, it's not going to kill him, but working in the cold weather and in the winter I feel for him every day. It's hard work."

"He can retire when he's 65 obviously, but if I could get the £50,000, we could have that nicely for two years before he retires."

When she returned she was on £2,000 after three questions, and her fourth she correctly answered 'ruby' as the stone used in rhyming slang for curry taking her to £5,000.

Next she won £10,000 by answering that whooping cough was not covered by the MMR vaccine when she asked the audience using her second lifeline.

Jane had already been in tears earlier in the show when Tarrant screened a cute message from her grandchildren urging her on to win lots of money to take them to Disneyland.

On to the next question, she won £20,000 by answering boxer Ricky Hatton is known as the Hitman after phoning her friend, Clive from London.

Getting close to £50,000 with no lifelines, she said: "I am feeling better, but there is some



**WINNER:** Jane picked up £50,000 on ITV quiz

trepidation with £50,000 – I have got to be sure I know the answer, but I am excited as well."

The question was, "who starred as Edna Turnblad in the West End premiere of the musical Hairspray?"

With possible answers of Robert Lindsay, Bradley Walsh, Jason Donovan and Michael Ball, and only 30 seconds to make up her mind, Jane said: "Michael Ball, final answer" and then pulled a face of worry.

As Tarrant yelled she had the right answer and had won £50,000, Jane burst into tears.

Asked what the win will mean for her husband, she said: "I will get off this stage and tell him to bury the trowel."

Breaking away from the usual format, Tarrant said: "I want you to do it now. I want to phone him, and you to tell him."

There was heartache on the next question for £75,000 when she correctly guessed Edward was the name of Mr Rochester from Jane Eyre, but rejected the question for another.

Putting on a brave face, she said: "Never mind, I am happy."

# Government is failing to see the big picture over courts closures

**CONTENTIOUS** government proposals to close magistrates' courts in Ashford and Swale have been developed with "no sense", claims an influential JP, *writes Steve Knight.*

John Fassenfelt, who serves on the mid-Kent bench, is also deputy chairman of the national Magistrates' Association and told KOS Media he did not think the impact on the communities affected by the potential closures had been properly addressed.

The Ministry of Justice is planning to shut 103 courts in England and Wales in an attempt to save at least £15 million a year in running costs, plus an extra £22m in building maintenance.

A consultation on the courts proposals closes on September 15.

"We understand the economic predicament the Government finds itself in and there are probably good reasons for shutting many of the courts on the list," said Mr Fassenfelt.

"But we don't accept there's a case for Sittingbourne or Ashford. The consultation document only looks at the economic side of particular courthouses and not the issues in and around them."

"For example, if Sittingbourne Magistrates' Court is closed then defendants, witnesses and victims will have to go to either Canterbury or Medway. That's fine if you live in the middle of Sittingbourne, but if you're stuck out in Leysdown (on the Isle of Sheppey) then it's nigh on impossible to get there by public transport."

"I think the problems in Ashford are similar because there are also outlying areas and the town is expanding."

Last month Sittingbourne and Sheppey

Tory MP Gordon Henderson said people living in his constituency would be "betrayed" if the closure of their court went ahead.

Mr Fassenfelt said he was optimistic reactions like Mr Henderson's would force the Government to consider other options.

"The court closures are not underpinned by any sort of strategy of how to deliver justice in Kent," he said. "You've got to set standards, but there's no sense in any of this."

Meanwhile, Mr Fassenfelt admitted he had mixed feelings about plans to axe anti-social behaviour orders (Asbos), which magistrates issue to defendants at the request of police and councils.

Home Secretary Theresa May has signalled her intention to do away with the orders, with police adopting a more "common sense" approach.

However, her Labour predecessor Alan Johnson warned that such a move would "leave communities helpless".

Mr Fassenfelt said: "I think Asbos have their uses, but you've got to remember

that before they were introduced (in 1999) there was still a plethora of laws that allowed police to deal with low-level crimes."

"Asbos only reinforced the police's ability to bring these issues to court, albeit slightly quicker."

"I have mixed feelings about them potentially being axed. I was never 100 per cent behind them because they were originally intended for adults, but have instead been used extensively for young people."



**UNSURE:** John Fassenfelt



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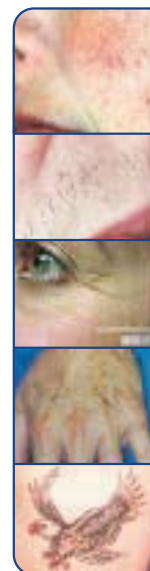
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# Synagogues open doors to reveal county's long links with Judaism

SYNAGOGUES will welcome in the public as part of a celebration of the Jewish religion and its close connections with Kent.

The county is home to a number of Jewish places of worship including the Old Synagogue in Canterbury, the Reform Synagogue in Ramsgate and the Chatham Memorial Synagogue, all of which will be available to explore on Sunday, September 12.

Ramsgate was also home to one of the most famous British Jews of the 19th century, Sir Moses Montefiore one of the great philanthropists of his time.

"It's a good opportunity for people who haven't been inside a synagogue before and for them to ask any questions they like," said Godfrey Fischer, senior warden of Thanet and District Reform Synagogue.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

"It's also a good chance for people to learn about religions that they don't belong to, which is always beneficial. For example, we are active members of the Thanet Inter-Faith Council, which meets regularly to talk about aspects of different religions to ensure we can all get along.

## Heritage

"Most people just want to live a peaceful life and believe what they want to believe without other people telling them what is right and wrong."

Kent has five active Jewish communities beyond the London suburbs, ranging from Orthodox and Independent to Progressive, all of which have resolved to work together on a range of projects designed to enhance Judaism in the county.

The Thanet and District Reform Synagogue is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, and will be hosting an exhibition entitled Art in Judaism as part of the European Day of Jewish Culture and Heritage next Sunday. Admission is free and refreshments will also be available.

"Jewish people have had a presence in Kent since there have been Jews in this country, so that's going back a long way," said Mr Fischer.

"In our part of the world the community has been very closely linked with Montefiore, who was a very English Jew and a great benefactor. He donated the gold links on the Ramsgate town mayor's chains of office, which are still worn with great pride today. The links are the Hebrew letter for 'M'."

The Art in Judaism exhibition takes place at the synagogue in Margate Road, Ramsgate, between 11am-3pm next Sunday. Visit [www.jew-ishkent.org.uk](http://www.jew-ishkent.org.uk) or [www.reformjudaism.org.uk](http://www.reformjudaism.org.uk).



DONATOR: Sir Moses Montefiore

Soon you'll be able to dry clothes in the park

OUTDATED by-laws are to be made easier to abolish as part of government plans to give communities more decision-making powers, *writes Steve Knight*.

By-laws are local regulations established to deal with an area's issues, but the need for Parliamentary approval before they can be scrapped means some rules remain intact long after their usefulness has expired.

Examples include a 1956 directive that prohibits the drying of clothes in various parks in Whitstable, and another from 1965 which prevents people playing gramophones or wireless sets too loudly in Lydd.

Local government minister Grant Shapps told the BBC the Government wanted to put power back into the hands of local people.

"Clearly, an 1887 law about beating carpets in Blackpool is no longer followed, in which case let's make it easier to scrap," he said.

"Having pointless laws that no-one follows makes a mockery of the law. This government wants to hand the power to do those things to local communities, which can't be a bad thing."

Although there are many examples of outdated by-laws throughout the country, there are even more that still serve a purpose for the communities in which they are set up.

For instance, in 2001 Canterbury council agreed to a new by-law that made it illegal to drink alcohol in a specific church and car park that had suffered problems in the past.

And it is these types of rules the Government wants to make easier to create, by again allowing local authorities to make decisions based on the wants and needs of their residents.

"This will give us the chance to sit down and have a proper look at what laws are really necessary," said Cllr Andrew Bowles, leader of the Tory-run Swale council.

"I've always been a total advocate of small government, and that Parliament should interfere on as few occasions as possible.

"Let's talk to residents and let them decide what rules they find to be total nonsense."

Yet despite welcoming the proposals, Cllr Bowles warned against councils making knee-jerk reactions just because they can.

He added: "It's more important we use our intellect to make sure we consider the consequences first."

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## Glitter 'sightings' make the news

REPORTS that disgraced pop star Gary Glitter could be living in Shepway have sparked a fever of interest.

National newspapers and a television company have all followed up our sister paper Yourshepway's exclusive report that paedophile Glitter had reportedly been seen in the Seabrook area. And now the latest report says he was at the wheel of a green classic car on the A20 in Sellindge.

Witness David Nicholas said: "I was driving through Sellindge and I definitely saw him. He had a bald head, a goatee beard and a smug look on his face."

Other reports have put the former glam-rock – convicted of child sex offences – in Hythe, Sandgate and Folkestone.

He is also reported to have been barred by some Shepway pubs.

## A quick guide to football training

FOOTBALL supporters are taking advantage of the new high-speed trains, according to Southeastern.

For fans travelling to the big London clubs the new trains can massively reduce travel times. For example, after the 37-minute journey from Ashford to St Pancras, it takes just nine minutes to get to Arsenal on the Underground. Tottenham takes 17 minutes, West Ham 15 and Chelsea 30.

Vince Lucas, service delivery director, said: This is the first year supporters in Kent have been able to take advantage of the high-speed service. With the excellent Underground connections at St Pancras, they can be at the game within half an hour or so."

# Jailed: The callous thug who deliberately infected young woman with HIV

By **FLORENCE TENNENT**

florence.tennent@kosmedia.co.uk

**A MAN who knowingly infected a 19-year-old with HIV has been jailed for two years.**

His victim found out only when she went for a pregnancy test. Nicholas Andrew Richards, 31, of Saffron Way, Sittingbourne, was given two years in prison and a five-year unprotected-sex ban after he pleaded guilty to two charges of grievous bodily harm.

In June, 2008, Richards had unprotected sex with a teenager from Faversham, despite knowing he was HIV positive.

The young woman only found out she had the virus when she fell pregnant and took routine blood tests. Luckily, her baby was spared the infection.

Richards was sentenced to a year in jail and given a five-year sexual offences prevention order, which forbids him from having unprotected sex and means he must warn any potential partners about his HIV status.

Det Chief Insp Simon Wilson of mid Kent police said: "Not only did he knowingly infect a young girl with HIV – a disease she will



'VICIOUS': Nicholas Richards infected teen

have to live with for the rest of her life – but he also selfishly put her child at risk, too.

"The sheer bravery the victim showed in coming forward immediately and giving evidence in court helped us secure a conviction against him and I would like to pay tribute to her courage."

Richards was given an additional year's sentence for a separate incident of GBH with intent on April 9, last year, when he assaulted a 28-year-old in Gillingham, leaving him with a partially severed tongue, bleeding to the left side of his brain, a bruised and swollen face and a broken nose.

DCI Wilson said: "The crimes committed by Richards have been both abhorrent and callous, with far-reaching consequences for both victims."

"His vicious attack on a man in Medway proves he is a danger to others and I am glad he has been brought to justice for his crimes."

"I would also appeal to others who may have fallen prey to this man to report it to police so he can be made to face the consequences of his actions."

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## Nurses' mealtime service proves hard to swallow

NURSES could soon be serving patients their food as well as treating their medical needs under new plans at a hospital.

If proposals go ahead, nurses at Darent Valley Hospital in Dartford will replace catering staff and will have to start dishing out meals.

It follows a patient survey at Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust which indicated nurses should be more involved with patient meals.

But union officials at Unison, which represents some of the nurses at the hospital and the catering staff who are employed by private company Carillion, said the move was unnecessary. Simon Bolton, regional organiser for Unison, claimed the move would see nurses slipping back into the stereotypical 1950s nurse role.

### Pressure

"This is the 21st century," he said. "Nurses have more skills and have more responsibility than they used to. They will be put under extreme pressure if they have to carry out their medical duties on top of dishing out food. I think it's a solution looking for a problem when there isn't one. Nurses feel the same and believe it's a bad idea."

But health bosses claim the move will provide more direct contact between patients and nursing staff. Jenny Kay, director of nursing at Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust, said discussions with Carillion about the feasibility of changing mealtime service was still in early stages.

"We always take patients' comments seriously," she said. "The latest patient satisfaction survey indicated a preference for nurses to be more involved in mealtimes. Serving meals gives nurses the one-to-one opportunity to talk about how each patient is feeling and hear any comments about the hospital food."

But Unison dismissed trust claims that



**EXTRA DUTIES:** Darent Valley Hospital chiefs want nurses to help at mealtimes

serving food would provide better contact.

"Nurses are in overall charge of caring for patients and already keep an eye on what they eat and whether they are hydrated," said Mr Bolton.

"The idea that patients won't talk to a nurse if they are unhappy with the food is rubbish. One thing people do when they are unhappy is complain or ask their relatives to say something. It's an absolute fallacy that nurses don't have good contact with their patients if they're not serving food."

Mr Bolton added: "The catering staff have been doing an adequate job. There have been no problems raised since they started serving the food. They're getting on with their work and doing it well. Nurses should not have to deal with what is effectively house-keeping when they have so many other things to do."

Unison represents 240 catering, porter and cleaning staff employed by Carillion at the hospital. It is not known whether the plans, if pushed through, will result in any redundancies. Carillion, one of the UK's leading support services and construction companies, declined to comment.





**SKA TURN:** Local act Arthur Kay and the Originals will be among the performers

## Three days of harbour ska heaven

A HARBOUR is to come alive with the sound of ska this weekend as bands and DJs come together to celebrate the music's resurgence in Kent.

The Skabour festival, which is being held in Folkestone, is expected to draw thousands, as dedicated fans join new followers at the inaugural event.

Organiser John Sims, a leading light within the ska scene, said many of the gigs will be free to attend. "The concept is to do this for the love of the music rather than money," he said.

Mr Sims – also known as Teflon – is a graphic designer behind the black and white imagery of the 2-Tone record label which represented 1970s ska bands, including The Specials and The Selecter.

The Hawkinge resident said: "Folkestone Skabour will be the ska music event of the year. Once the word was out we were overwhelmed by the response from bands, DJs, fans, scooter clubs and the public."

Ska originated in Jamaica in the late 1950s, combining Caribbean folk music and calypso with rhythm 'n' blues and jazz. It became popular with mods in the 1960s. But this weekend will see it brought back to life, with bands and DJs celebrating the genre.

### Sold out

The Beat, a ska revival band formed in the late 1970s, are performing as well as local bands The Flack and Skatronics.

While several bands are playing at ticketed venues in the town, the majority will be playing at the harbour along with sets from a host of DJs.

Fans could also be treated to a glimpse of one-time Specials keyboard player Jerry Dammers, who is planning to attend.

When his former bandmates re-formed The Specials, they sold all the tickets for a show at Margate's Winter Gardens in November last year, in under 24 hours.

Trevor Moss, another organiser of the event, said tickets for some bands are already sold out, but there will be free music all weekend at the harbour.

"There will be a carnival atmosphere and music that will make everyone tap their feet, whether they are followers of ska or new fans," he said. "It's like with the Notting Hill carnival; not everyone loves Caribbean music but there is a real party feel that gets people involved. This will be the same."

"There will be 150 scooters as well as market stalls, 14 bands and 13 DJs. John Sims has contacts in the ska movement and as soon as he said what we were doing loads of people wanted to get involved."

Mr Moss said if the event was successful, other festivals could be held each year.

"We could do a biennial ska event and perhaps jazz or rock other years," he said.

"Folkestone is up and coming with the Creative Quarter, so it's the perfect setting."

The three-day festival runs from Friday until Sunday evening. Click on the website [www.folkestoneskabourfestival.co.uk](http://www.folkestoneskabourfestival.co.uk) for more information or to book tickets.

A MAN has been charged with manslaughter following the death of a Lithuanian man. Ruben White, of Kingswood Road, Gillingham, was arrested after an alleged attack in Balmoral Road, Gillingham, on Saturday, August 21, and later charged with grievous bodily harm.

The 21-year-old went back before Medway magistrates on Tuesday, where the charge was altered to manslaughter.

Prosecutors made the decision to increase the severity of the charge after the death of the victim, Saulius Klevinskas, on Thursday, August 26. White was remanded in custody.

SCAFFOLDING should start coming off the new Marlowe Theatre in Canterbury within the next two months as the eye-catching building is finally revealed.

Kate Greenaway, Canterbury City Council's senior project manager, said: "We have another year of construction work and contractors will hand the building over to us in August, 2011, for final fit-out works before we open at the end of September."

She said the theatre was on time and on budget: "We had budgeted £25.6 million for the project. We haven't cut corners. That money was ring-fenced. It is not part of any cost-cutting exercises at all."

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## Book highlights sex abuse by women

FEMALE sex offenders go under the spotlight in a new book written by a forensic psychologist at the University of Kent.

Dr Theresa Gannon is one of the world's leading authorities on the subject, having penned more than 70 chapters and journals, as well as edited the works of others.

Titled Female Sexual Offenders – Theory, Assessment and Treatment, the book is the first of its kind to provide an overview of female-perpetrated sexual abuse along with statistics and treatment options for offenders.

Dr Gannon said: "It has been an interesting and worthwhile exercise to work on this book.

"This book covers everything we know about female sexual offenders to date, and so it is a very useful collection for anyone who works in this area."

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# Laughter and tees

## Hills will be alive to sound of celebrities during Dave Lee's annual charity golf day

By **MARIJKE COX**

TOTTENHAM Hotspur manager Harry Redknapp is teeing off with his celebrity chums this weekend to help send sick and disadvantaged children on holiday.

He is being joined by a host of stars who have donated their time to raise money for underprivileged, disabled and terminally ill youngsters through Dave Lee's Happy Holidays.

The Kent comedian, who founded the charity with his now late wife Linda 15 years ago, is inviting members of the public to come along for a fun day of celebrity spotting.

The golf tournament – supported by KOS Media – is being held this weekend on Sunday, September 5, at Chart Hills Golf Club in Biddenden in Ashford, with free admission for children and a £5 charge for adults. The action starts at 10am.

All money raised goes towards sending sick and underprivileged children and their families on the holiday of a lifetime.

Others hitting the green alongside Redknapp are former England footballer Luther Blissett, cricketers Martin Saggars



**ON COURSE:** Dave's charity could hit £2m

and Derek Underwood, and Gillingham manager Andy Hessenthaler.

Dave's comedy pals Jim Davidson, Bobby Davro and Bradley Walsh are also taking part with ex-EastEnders Shaun Williamson and TV presenter Stephen Mulhern.

"Every penny raised goes to the charity – it all gets spent sending the children and their families on holiday," said Dave.

"We're trying to raise £20,000 which will take us over the £2 million mark since I started the charity.

"It's not only the children that need a holiday, but the families, too. It's natural for the rest of the family to be put on the back-burner when there is a sick child.

"Or in other cases the family can't afford to go away on holiday. This gives them a chance to go somewhere they have never been before."

Dave Lee's Happy Holidays owns five holiday homes in Camber Sands and has sent more than 45,000 children and their families to places such as Tenerife, Disneyland Paris and Disney World in Florida.

The charity also sends 1,250 children to a pantomime every year.

Dave said: "Many of these children miss out on things like this and it is so important for them to have something to look forward to and enjoy.

"I didn't go to school until I was eight because I wasn't very well, and it got me thinking that I wanted to help children in similar situations – that's why I decided to start the charity.

"It's run completely by volunteers – every penny raised goes on these holidays and trips. I hope lots of people come to the golf tournament with their autograph books at the ready and a picnic."

The event boasts a licensed bar and on-site catering, as well as free parking.

Visit [www.happyholidays.moonfruit.com](http://www.happyholidays.moonfruit.com) for more information.

## Bucks campaigners shocked by our 'ugly' high-speed line

"HORRIFIC" damage caused to the countryside by High Speed 1 has strengthened the resolve of campaigners against a fast train line between London and Birmingham.

Councillors in Buckinghamshire are so concerned about the impact the proposed High Speed 2 network will have on their county that they embarked on a fact-finding mission to Kent, guided by former Kent County Council planning officer Chris Waite.

But as Chiltern Tory district councillor Mimi Harker told KOS Media, the travelling party were less than impressed with what they found.

"What I saw in Kent totally strengthened my resolve to fight the HS2 proposals," she said.

### Pressure

"One picture I shall never forget was the glorious scene of a farmhouse with grazing animals on a hill, but then further up the hill there was the track, the infrastructure and the ugliness.

"It's horrific and if anyone needed any reason to fight HS2 then they should come down to Kent and see what's happened here."

Southeastern's high-speed service has received heavy criticism since its launch last December, with passengers claiming it is under-used and has increased the pressure on mainline trains.

Set up by the previous Labour government in January last year, HS2 Ltd has been tasked with looking at the feasibility of a second line between London and the West

Midlands with possible extensions to the North and Scotland.

A public consultation on the proposals is planned for early next year.

If given the go-ahead the line would cut through the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and tunnel underneath Amersham and the Chalfonts.

Cllr Valerie Letheren – cabinet member for transport at Tory-run Bucks County Council – said the county would not benefit from the line because there are no stops planned there.

She added: "We are very concerned about the detrimental effects HS2 could have on our countryside and we all supported the motion we didn't want it to go through Bucks.

"There's a lot of opposition to it and I've only had one person tell me he thought it was a good idea. Residents' houses have been blighted ever since (previous Transport Secretary) Lord Adonis announced it, but they will only get compensation if the route goes through their homes and they have to move.

"We would prefer them to increase the capacity of the existing west coast mainline."

Cllr Letheren added she was grateful to Mr Waite – who worked on the HS1 project, but has since retired from KCC – for hosting the visit.

She said: "He told us about all dealing with such a large scheme and was very fair.

"He admitted that once something like that is thrust upon you, a council has no choice but to work with the Government and do what's best for the county."

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**DAREDEVIL** Bear Grylls and funnyman Martin Clunes are showing off their creative skills as part of an auction in aid of the RNLI, *writes Marijke Cox.*

Their art will be presented in the Margate Harbour Arm gallery alongside other celebrity creations as part of the 150th celebrations of the town's lifeboat.

Around 100 postcard-sized pieces of work have been donated by celebrities and local artists and will be displayed from September 4-11 before being auctioned off to raise money for Margate's RNLI.

Charing comedian Vic Reeves, gardening expert Alan Titchmarsh and Margate-born artist Tracey Emin are also involved in the project.

A spokeswoman from the RNLI said volunteer crews have worked closely with some of the stars.

"We've done quite a lot of work with Bear Grylls; for example in 2000, when he jet skied around the UK," she said.

"He has great support for what we do. We've also received support from Martin Clunes ever since he starred in the Doc Martin series which was set on the coast.

"And Alan Titchmarsh is someone we know well and has always supported the RNLI."

Clunes said: "Being very familiar with the work of the RNLI, I know the professionalism of its volunteer lifeboat crews has been honed down to a fine art, so I am only too happy to lend my creative flair to the Margate art auction to help raise the much-needed money to enable the charity and its crews to continue their life-saving work."

Each piece of work donated to the

# Stars' mystery artworks up for grabs at auction in aid of RNLI

exhibition will be anonymous, but a list of artists will be displayed and people will have to guess who created which one.

The art will then be auctioned by Thanet novelist Jane Wenham-Jones and Will Wollen, creative director of the Theatre Royal Margate.

Only when the piece has been sold will the new owner find out who the artist is.

The RNLI spokeswoman said organisers are using a large number of gallery contacts to get buyers into the town for the auction.

"A similar auction last year raised £8,000 so we're hoping to reach or beat that, but any donations are good," she said.

## Sacrifice

The event forms part of the 150th anniversary of the Margate lifeboat.

In the autumn a formal ceremony will take place when a 150th anniversary framed vellum will be presented to the station.

Paul Hodson, lifeboat operations manager at Margate, said it was an important year for the station to commemorate the commitment and sacrifice of generations of volunteer lifeboat crews.

He also praised the supporters who helped maintain the traditions of the lifeboat service.

"When we look at the pictures and artefacts chronicling our station history we all feel extremely proud and privileged to be involved in maintaining what is an important part of the local community," he said.

Further information about the auction is available from Lyn Edwards on 07970 657847 or email [margatelifeboatfundraising@rnli.org.uk](mailto:margatelifeboatfundraising@rnli.org.uk).



**PICTURE PERFECT:** A host of celebrities including (left to right) Alan Titchmarsh, Tracey Emin and Martin Clunes have contributed to the cause

## White Cliffs hope to greet Olympic Torch despite security fears

DOVER could still welcome the entry of the Olympic Torch to the UK for the London 2012 Games despite worries over security.

The International Olympic Committee – alarmed at disturbances on the route prior to the Beijing games – is set to halt the traditional international relay.

Members fear a repeat of the protests, which were aimed at China's human rights record, as the torch proceeds through other sensitive areas.

This has led to concern locally that Dover will not see the torch paraded through its streets on arrival in the UK – as happened prior to the 1948 Games.

### Logistical

Campaigners say it would attract thousands of visitors and be a major boost to the economy.

But Kent County Council's head of sport, leisure and Olympics, Chris Hespe, who is also chairman of the Kent 2012 Campaign, said Dover was still in the frame.

Councillor Hespe said: "Recently, the organisers informed us that no decision has been made on the point of entry and that full discussions would be held with Kent County Council about the Dover option prior to any decision being taken.

"We understand there are a

number of areas that would like to accommodate the entry of the Olympic torch into the UK.

"We believe the case for Dover is strong, but understand the decision will be made on logistical grounds."

The torch is set to arrive in Britain on Friday, May 18, 2012, at a destination still to be finalised. It is believed there will then be a relay across the UK.

Upon arrival in Britain, the torch will start a 70-day tour where it is expected to visit all 66 cities, all sites where events will take place and 28 UNESCO heritage sites, including Canterbury Cathedral.

Back in 1948, London hosted the Olympics after a 12-year hiatus because of World War Two.

HMS Bicester was detailed to carry the flame across the Channel and into England via Dover. The flame then travelled to London through Kent via Canterbury, Charing and Maidstone before continuing the journey to Wembley.

The Kent 2012 Campaign is partnered with the KCC and is making sure that Kent benefits from the London Olympics and Paralympics happening on the county's doorstep.

The campaign is continuing its case for the torch's arrival in front of the iconic White Cliffs.

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Optional purchase payment†††	£10,075.00
Amount of credit	£16,947.85
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SHY GUY: Watt the binturong ventures out at Port Lympne

Picture: DAVE ROLFE

## Visitors finally see Watt a rare binturong looks like

YOU could be forgiven for not knowing what a binturong is, or what it looks like.

Well, one has just arrived at the Port Lympne zoo park near Folkestone, and he is pretty rare.

The keepers said Watt, as they have named him, is a first for them.

The three-year-old arrived from another collection earlier in the summer but is only now venturing out into the public viewing area.

Head small carnivore keeper, Neville Buck, said: "Watt has actually been here several weeks but he is a shy individual and has been taking time getting used to his new surroundings."

"When he arrived he was cautious and confined himself to his nest-box, but we gradually coaxed him out and eventually he was accepting food from the end of a stick."

"He is gaining in confidence and can often be spotted up in the trees of his open-topped enclosure."

"Binturongs are primarily nocturnal so the best time to see him is late afternoon."

The shy creatures are usually found in the rainforests of south-east Asia, so peeking out at the wilds of Kent was always going to be a culture shock for Watt.

The binturong has a face like a cat and long shaggy black fur like a bear, which earned them the nickname 'bear cat'.

Despite appearances, they are not actually related to either. The binturong is in fact the largest member of the civet family.

The binturong's tail is prehensile, perfectly adapting them for climbing and gripping branches in the canopy.

Watts lives primarily on fruit, leaves and shoots and on occasion eggs and small rodents or birds.

Mr Buck added: "We are delighted to have a new species at the park and look forward to seeing more and more of Watt in the future."



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# You can be the judge in online courtroom

## But will your sentence match the crime?

By STEVE KNIGHT

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

AN ONLINE courtroom allowing web users to pass judgement on fictional cases has attracted more than 10,000 visits in a little over three months.

Launched in May by the Kent Criminal Justice Board (KCJB), the You be the Judge website gives people the chance to find out more about the sentencing process and to have their say on how certain crimes should be punished.

They can then see if their sentence matches the one handed down by the judge or magistrate sitting in the actual case, and also compare it to how other viewers voted.

Deputy Chief Constable Adrian Leppard is chairman of the KCJB, which was set up in 2003 to tackle issues including persistent young offenders, public confidence and victim satisfaction.

He said: "Initiatives such as You be the Judge aim to help improve people's knowledge and understanding of the criminal justice system, to explain how it works and show the influencing factors on decisions."

The interactive website launched with just one case for viewers to judge, but three new crimes have since been placed online.

One is based on a fictional 26-year-old man with two previous convictions, who pleads not guilty to a burglary charge at crown court following a late-night break-in at the home of a young couple and their baby.

Another features a 35-year-old drug addict who admits to robbing a young woman at knife-point to feed his habit.

The third involves a 19-year-old man with



IN THE DOCK: Fictional teenage character in one of several website court cases

no previous convictions who pleads guilty to using threatening behaviour towards an elderly woman who argued with him about playing football near her home.

You be the Judge was set up over concerns that many people do not know what happens inside a real courtroom, nor appreciate how complex an apparently simple hearing can turn out to be.

The KCJB is comprised of Kent Police, the Crown Prosecution Service, Kent Probation, the Prison Service, the Courts Service, Youth Offending Services in Kent and Medway, and the Legal Services Commission.

The website has also won the admiration of the Magistrates' Association, of which Central Kent Bench member John Fassenfelt is deputy chairman.

"The Magistrates' Association actively encourages every opportunity to engage with the public to show how complex the sentencing process is, with the need to balance the seriousness of the offence with the impact on the victim, the protection of the public and the circumstances of the offender."

Visit [www.cjsonline.gov.uk/kent](http://www.cjsonline.gov.uk/kent) and click on You be the Judge.

# Views given over plans to transfer public housing

MORE than half of tenants and leaseholders across east Kent have given their views ahead of a proposed shake-up of council housing services.

Canterbury, Dover, Shepway and Thanet councils put forward plans to set up an

arm's-length management organisation (ALMO) to manage their housing stock and save £1.5 million over the next few years.

The savings would then be reinvested to improve help at evenings and weekends and give more involvement for tenants and leaseholders in how things are run and the standard of service they receive.

The consultation has been sent to 18,000 people across the four areas, with 52 per cent taking part by either turning up at events or filling in surveys on paper or by phone.

The response rate in Shepway alone was 63 per cent.

During the 12-week consultation, more than 50 face-to-face events were held across east Kent, as well as telephone surveys and newsletters delivered to people's doors.

Tenants were asked what they thought about their councils working together and about setting up an ALMO to manage their council housing service.

More than 70 per cent of those in Shepway thought it was a good idea for their council to work with others in east Kent and to form the ALMO to run their services.

A report on the consultation results will go to each of the four councils in September and October. Councillors will need to approve and submit an application to transfer their housing management to the new set-up.

Shepway cabinet member for housing, Keren Belcourt, said: "This is a practical example of four councils working well together to deliver such an extensive and successful consultation. We are hopeful these plans will bring about a greatly improved service."

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#### 2006 Delta Santana 28x10ft



The perfect static for people looking to own their very own holiday home. Lots of room for all the family, sleeps up to six. Spacious lounge and dining area with fitted seating. Modern kitchen, bathroom and 2 bedrooms. Perfect for subletting.

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**£8,150**

#### STAR BUY!

#### 2008 BK Grosvenor 37x12ft



This luxury holiday home is as new and in immaculate condition throughout. This model offers the very best in holiday home luxury. Modern style lounge with feature fire place, dining area with dining table and four chairs, stylish kitchen with a range of fitted units, oven, hob and fridge freezer. A hallway leads to two generous bedrooms and an en-suite shower room.

This holiday must be seen to be appreciated!

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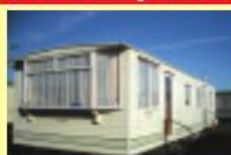
#### BK Contessa 35x12ft



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#### 2003 Carnaby Belvedere 35x12ft



On a great pitch close to the entertainment complex and only yards away from the beach access. Very good condition throughout and comprising of lounge with feature fire place and modern kitchen with dining area. Bathroom with modern suite and 3 bedrooms.

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# Mayor's tunnel vision saved lives when the bombs fell

**RAF Benevolent Fund's online newspaper reports on the Battle of Britain 'as it happened' as part of 70th anniversary celebrations**

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

THE so-called 'Mad Mayor of Ramsgate' is one of several forgotten war heroes brought back to life as part of an online history project.

Alderman Arthur Kempe helped save the lives of tens of thousands of residents when, a year before the outbreak of World War Two in 1939, he ordered the creation of a network of underground tunnels to act as air raid shelters.

His forward thinking was ridiculed at the time but attitudes soon changed when the Luftwaffe dropped 500 bombs on the town, destroying 1,000 homes.

The fascinating story is one of many to be covered by 1940Chronicle.com – an online newspaper which reports on lesser-known wartime stories as if they were happening today.

Author Kevin Telfer was tasked with writing the newspaper, which was produced by the digital agency Reading Room in partnership with the RAF Benevolent Fund.

"People thought Alderman Kempe was a bit potty when he suggested building these enormous air raid shelters that could hold 60,000 people," he said.



"Most people didn't anticipate being bombed a couple of years down the line so they wrote him off as a bit of a madman. But when the bombing started he was hailed as something of a hero because he had the foresight to go ahead with the plans anyway."

"Judging by newspapers of the time, Alderman Kempe was seen as an eccentric character. Apparently he used to welcome tourists to the beach at Ramsgate by serving them tea while wearing a top hat and braided coat."

In addition to the real-life stories retold in 1940Chronicle, the website also tells the tales



of five fictional characters who give daily accounts of the war through blogs and Twitter accounts.

The newspaper was launched to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain, which was largely fought over the skies of Kent.

"Ultimately we want to raise awareness of the RAF Benevolent Fund but we also want to help engage people by providing them with an entertaining way to learn about a very important part of British history," said Mr Telfer.

"Although the battles involving Hurricanes



**TRIP BACK IN TIME:** Tunnels like the one in this picture saved thousands of lives in Ramsgate, and their story is among other fascinating tales from the Battle of Britain retold on website [www.1940Chronicle.com](http://www.1940Chronicle.com)

and Spitfires were obviously hugely important during the war, there were also lots of other quirky stories which nobody hears about any more but which are still hugely relevant."

The RAF Benevolent Fund is the RAF's leading welfare charity, providing financial, practical and emotional support to all serving and former members of the RAF, as well as their partners and dependants.

Spokesman Dean Benton said: "This campaign is designed to engage the wider public in the story of the Battle of Britain and remind everyone of the huge debt of gratitude we owe to those who fought for our freedom, as well as those serving today."

"We also want to bring home the physical, psychological and emotional impact of conflict in personnel and their families, and to remind people the fund has always been there to support members of the RAF family through difficult times."



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# Brothers training to take on the Taliban

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A BAND of brothers are taking part in an intensive training regime in Canada to help prepare them for the harsh realities of war in Afghanistan.

Privates Ben and Alex Allan-Chapman, from Ramsgate, are currently involved with more than 1,200 soldiers battling through Exercise Prairie Thunder in the western state of Alberta.

The training involves a live fire stage featuring multi-purpose machine guns, tanks and armoured fighting vehicles, before switching to a military version of the popular Laser Quest game using state-of-the-art weapons systems.

A sophisticated computer system is used to record any injuries that would have been suffered in real combat.

Ben, 25, said: "I'm not really thinking about Afghanistan at the moment but as the deployment gets closer I will probably be a bit nervous."



**BROTHERS IN ARMS:** Privates Ben and Alex Allan-Chapman serve with 1PWRR

"My mum is a bit worried as it will be the first time my brother and I go out at the same time and on the same deployment, but she thinks it's the best choice for me because my dad was also in the Army and you grow up knowing the risks."

"These company attacks are demanding and deserve to be taken seriously, as this is what we may have to do next year. "But knowing we have done them well and that everyone is still okay at the end of it makes it worthwhile."

Both Ben and 21-year-old Alex serve with the 1st Battalion of Kent's county regiment, the Princess of Wales' Royal Regiment (1PWRR).

Alex is a communications specialist with Y Company, while Ben is a dismounted infantryman with A Company.

This is the first major exercise the brothers have tackled together and their performance as part of an armoured infantry battle group will determine their readiness for the next phase of training to prepare for Helmand Province.

"We are a lot closer now as we are not doing separate things where we don't hear from one another," said Alex.

"Sometimes we'd go for a year without contact, but now we see each other every day. We have a lot more in common

and the bond between my mates and my brother is strong as we really understand each other."

And Alex said despite the intense heat and mosquitoes in Alberta, he prefers the hardships over being back in barracks.

"I would much rather be on exercise than back in camp polishing boots," he added.

"We have some real characters in the platoon, and being able to experience Canada with my brother and mates is the most rewarding."

## Chicks spread wings

THE purple heron chicks born at the Dungeness RSPB nature reserve have now flown the nest, having first been spotted last month.

Warden Philip Eglise said: "The day after we first saw the chick out of the nest I saw it flying with the adult male around his favourite feeding location."

"Two days later a fledgling was seen in very clear view for over an hour feeding alone along the edge of a reed bed about 150 metres from the nest site."

"It was successfully catching numerous small fish without any parental assistance."

A second fledgling was seen three days after the first chick had left the nest, in the same willow bushes exercising its wings before making its first flight.

The juveniles were seen for the final time one week after the first fledgling took its initial flight. It is thought they have now left the site.

It was the first time purple herons bred in the UK.



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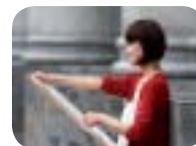
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Whatever you're looking for, Kent Adult Education programmes can provide you with the solutions. Now is the time to think about what new and exciting things you would like to learn in the coming year or which of your talents you would like to develop. New for this year, why not try Beekeeping or Burlesque and Pole Dancing, Jet Skiing and Scuba Diving or join us at Howletts Wildlife Park and be a Zoo Keeper for a Day!

Why not follow Russell Harper's example; his love of photography led him to start his own business! He picked up a Kent Adult Education course directory at the library in Sevenoaks, looking to develop his knowledge of photography. Under the tutor's guidance he had his first experience of using studio lighting, and even learned how to develop black and white film! Russell tells us that he learnt a huge amount from the courses and as he says – "they were fantastic value for money too!"

For Russell, Kent Adult Education courses helped him to

develop a better understanding of what was then a hobby, but is now his full-time occupation.



*Russell Harper in his studio*

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# WIN £300 Bluewater Jacques Vert vouchers

JACQUES Vert is proud to present its new collection for the autumn/winter 2010 season, taking the stress and strain out of shopping for a complete seasonal wardrobe.

And two KOS Media readers will each win £150 of vouchers to spend at the Bluewater store in our fabulous competition.

The collection is led by elegant occasion wear, all tailored to co-ordinate for weddings, parties and special occasions. Stylish knitwear and Jacques Vert's range of coats and rainwear complete the collection for a comprehensive winter wardrobe.

For the first time, Jacques Vert is extending its range to size 24, as well as creating new styles such as a flowing overshirt in suedette or chiffon to flatter a larger frame.

Each capsule story is accompanied by co-ordinating accessories in matching hues and patterns. Find hats or chic fascinators for understated elegance, clutch and evening bags, and elegant yet practical shoes in matching fabrics or in leather crafted in Italy.

The collection opens with a classic transitional story of black and pale ivory to complement any skin tone. Next, for a pretty,



raceday-ready outfit, tones of damson and pink petal and flirty hems are picture-perfect. Find also seasonal updates of cosmetic tones in coffee and peach shades, catwalk favourites plum and damson hues as well as an array of blues, from ice and a deeper fjord blue to aquamarine and peacock, all high-summer ready yet perfect to see the wearer through autumn.

Moving to formal occasion wear, try hot pink and mait or scarlet and ivory colour palettes, both with touches of black, look fabulous.

Finally, Christmas comes with a little glamour and sparkle. As ever, Jacques Vert offers a beautiful collection of wedding guest dresses as well as show-stopping hats and outfits for the mother of the bride or groom.

No autumn/winter range would be complete without coats and rainwear, and Jacques Vert has created an impressive stylish yet timeless seasonal offering.

Key features such as reversibility, with a chic animal print option, or a removable layer allow versatility, variety and enhanced wearability all in one investment piece.

As Christmas approaches, so too does the busiest time in the social calendar. Jacques Vert is on hand with a beautiful line of party wear in one of the season's hottest colours, plum. Exquisite beaded and sequinned detailing adorns a stunning evening gown,

which can be worn with a complementary sequin pink bolero to keep off the chill. On-trend pleating and frills give an extra touch of glamour. Jacques Vert clothing is cut to flatter, with fine attention to detail in the highest quality material.

Pretty chiffon blouses are adorned with delicate tiers to subtly disguise a fuller figure, and some waistbands are elasticised for comfort. Yet the elegance and poise of Jacques Vert's tailoring remain a stalwart aspect of the collection, as any mother of the bride, Christmas party guest or hostess and modern woman to wear the collection will discover.

To enter, simply answer this question: JACQUES VERT IS EXTENDING ITS RANGE TO WHICH SIZE?

Send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime phone number to: Jacques Vert Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SR. The closing date is September 17, 2010.



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## Autumn review crunch time for Lib Dem rebels

A LEADING Liberal Democrat campaigner has signalled the unveiling of October's comprehensive spending review as a crisis point for the party, **writes Marijke Cox.**

Cllr Peter Carroll, who lost out to Tory Helen Grant in the Maidstone and Weald seat, said although it was too early to say whether any Lib Dems would jump ship, many might rethink their allegiance depending on the extent of cuts.

Labour leadership candidate Ed Miliband has already offered to "lay out the welcome mat" to disillusioned Lib Dems after speculation that Charles Kennedy was to defect.

The former Lib Dem leader has dismissed the claim. Colchester MP Bob Russell also denied he was considering defecting, despite speculation he would walk over the rise in VAT. Last month, Liverpool councillor and member of the police authority Ian Jobling switched to Labour in protest at the coalition's proposed cuts to the police.

Cllr Carroll, who sits on Shepway District Council, has admitted to KOS Media that he was disappointed by the Con-Lib coalition and could understand why party members were feeling disillusioned.

"For so long we fought the Tories and it's difficult to adjust," he said. "But had the Tories won the general election hands down we would have already seen blood on the floor in terms of cuts."

"We need to make sure the party uses every ounce of influence it has, from Nick Clegg down to local level, to get a sense of fairness. Defecting isn't going to help and will make people feel betrayed. The party



**UNITED FRONT:** Nick Clegg (left) and David Cameron announce their coalition

can't become a soft touch to Tory power."

Reacting to speculation that Mr Kennedy would leave the party, Cllr Carroll, who campaigned for Gurkha resettlement rights alongside actress Joanna Lumley, said he would be astounded if it ever happened.

"He stamped on the rumours very quickly. I suspect they were created by Labour," he said. "It's too early for members to jump ship. The crisis point will be when the autumn spending review is unveiled in October."

"But I think the party has enough power to make a difference. It needs to co-ordinate its efforts from top to bottom."

"The good thing about this coalition is the Lib Dems do have some power. We are there to make sure the Government is fair. The Lib Dems' job is to give the people who need it a voice. We need to be helping those on a low wage, not people earning high wages. If the Lib Dems are soft with the Tories, people will see that as a betrayal."

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## Scientist's sex abuse of girls

A PAEDOPHILE who subjected two underage girls to more than 11 years of abuse has been sentenced to nine years in jail.

Research scientist Michael Taylor, 47, of West Street, Hunton, was convicted of a series of sex crimes against the girls, one of them from the age of 10.

He was convicted of two counts of rape of a child under 15, eight counts of indecent assault and two counts of gross indecency with a child.

One victim, Sophie Barnwell, 26, waived her right to anonymity to speak about the ordeal.

Her poem, Real Life Play, includes the lines: "Frozen to the floor shuddering from lecherous touches not given permission by me."

On sentencing, Judge Jeremy Gold said: "You gained the trust of two innocent girls and presented yourself in the same way as you have in court."

"Underneath the veneer of respect you have gained from your involvement in the scientific community, there is a predatory paedophile."

"You groomed the two girls into an instrument of your lust, robbing them of their childhood. The lasting effect of your perverted acts has corrupted these girls."

"However, as one of your victims was not prepared to accept your actions, you were nipped in the bud. Throughout this trial you have shown no trace of remorse."

Det Con Paula Howe said: "This inquiry has been a long and difficult one, but it would not have been possible without the sheer bravery of the victims and they should be commended for their courage in coming forward."



MICHAEL TAYLOR

# Ushering in a night of silver screen nostalgia

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IT WAS supposed to be a one-off screening of old Margate films, but demand has been so great that the event has been extended twice.

Organisers on the Isle of Thanet reported "extraordinary interest", with the first two Vintage Film Nights selling out before they had even been publicised.

Now Friends of the Shell Grotto (FOSG) are extending it so more people can experience an evening of publicity films spanning the 20th century.

They feature Margate in a starring role with supporting performances from Ramsgate, Broadstairs and Sandwich.

Two more evenings are now planned, with the films being screened in the Walpole Bay Hotel's ballroom with Nick Dermott as compere.

And just like any old-fashioned film evening, there will be an intermission with a bar, ice-creams and popcorn available from uniformed usherettes.

The films include Magical Margate, dating from 1919; The Canterbury Tour, from 1923; The Belle of Kent, made in 1958, promoting Margate and featuring cameos by Petula Clark and Dickie Valentine; plus All Go



**SCREEN IDOL:** Michael Aspel and friends star in the film All Go Margate (1970)

Margate, from 1970, with Michael Aspel boasting about the town's two million annual visitors.

Others include A Date With the Sun, a 1960s Margate film narrated by Kenneth Horne; At the Sign of the Ram and the Gate, a fictional tale of a Fleet Street journalist sent to convalesce in Ramsgate in 1957; and This is Broadstairs from 1970.

All proceeds will go to FOSG, an independent trust which helps maintain the underground shell grotto in Margate.

Chairwoman Susan Marsh said: "Stage two of the grotto's conservation work is about to start and we're now fund-raising towards

stage three of the programme, which will stabilise those areas of mosaic at risk.

"These works are essential to the long-term survival of the grotto and have been made possible by grants from English Heritage and Thanet council. However, we still have a shortfall in funding, which the Friends are working to raise."

Grotto owner Sarah Vickery said: "I think it's fair to say the popularity of these evenings took us by surprise."

"I realised Friends trustee Mandy Wilkins had unearthed some treasures, with Nick Dermott's assistance."

"And I knew we had much to be grateful to the council for in allowing us to screen them. However, I didn't anticipate we'd sell out two shows before we'd even had time to write anything about it."

She said they were striving to make the Vintage Film Nights as memorable as possible. As new treasures surface they will also be screened, which means the programme could change.

Tickets are free to FOSG members, £4.50 for non-members. Pre-booking is essential on 01843 220008 or at [www.shellgrottofriends.org](http://www.shellgrottofriends.org).

Vintage Film Nights are at the Walpole Bay Hotel, Fifth Avenue, Cliftonville, on September 16 and October 14, both at 7pm.

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# Ambulance chief defends hospital reshuffle scheme

A PARAMEDIC has sought to ease fears surrounding ambulance journey times if plans for a shake-up to maternity services go ahead.

Darren Reynolds, head of business development for South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust (SECAMB), said he had complete faith in the ability of paramedics to ensure the safety of mothers-to-be if consultant-led maternity services are centralised at the new Pembury hospital.

"I have complete confidence in staff ability to recognise the early signs of labour and if there are or are not any complications," he said. "I have confidence in their ability to make a robust decision based on the findings when they actually arise."

"We have seen the facts and figures and we have a service that is not robust in its current state. That is why SECAMB has been supportive – it is not a sustainable service being provided at present."

Health secretary Andrew Lansley has approved the controversial proposals to reconfigure women's and children's services subject to Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust and the primary care trust (PCT) NHS West Kent addressing some of the concerns raised by local people.

Campaigners in Maidstone, including politicians and GPs, have been fighting to keep full women's and children's services in

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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the county town's hospital. Objectors believe their hospital is being downgraded in favour of the new private finance initiative hospital at Pembury, but health bosses have argued that continuing to provide full services from both sites is unsustainable.

According to a survey by the British Medical Association (BMA) in Maidstone, 90 per cent of GPs are against the proposals, which would leave their hospital with a midwifery-led birthing centre.

The extra journey times pregnant women in Maidstone would face to give birth has been a major sticking point.

## Congestion

Dr Paul Hobday, the BMA's spokesman for Kent and a GP working in Maidstone, said: "Driving from Maidstone to Pembury can take over half an hour in the dead of night."

"It could take at least an hour after the decision being made to transfer anyone. There is no way this is a safer service."

Mr Reynolds, who was a frontline clinician in the ambulance service for 12 years, responded to questions about the congested stretch of the A21 leading to Pembury.

"It's not a concern. It's not just the A21 – there are many roads where there can be congestion. If the crew decide they do not want the patient in a queue of traffic they will use

the blue lights and push through," he said.

He said the extra journey time would be 10 to 15 minutes because the aim was all patients would be within half an hour of a hospital with full maternity services.

SECAMB said most women gave birth safely and got to a hospital or birthing centre without needing an ambulance.

"The midwifery-led centre only takes low-risk births and a very early decision is made to transfer out to a consultant-led unit. The number of emergencies relating to pregnancies is small," Mr Reynolds said.

He said there were some instances when paramedics had to deliver babies, but they were rare and only if birth was imminent.

He said: "Our clinicians are very competent in delivering babies and so if a midwife is unable to get to the location in time, they will provide telephone support, which happens from time to time."

"It's very rare that complications in births arise while women are in our care and where services have been reconfigured elsewhere we have received no reports of adverse incidents relating to transporting women in labour."

"This is because the right decisions are made to avoid such circumstances."

"Complex birthing issues will be picked up early, sometimes weeks in advance of delivery."

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## Pigeon pizza on menu at castle

ENGLISH Heritage has joined forces with Pizza Hut to bring back the tastes of the Middle Ages in the form of medieval-inspired pizza – featuring some very unusual toppings.

As part of a month celebrating medieval feasting at the Great Tower at Dover Castle, the restaurant chain has helped create medieval variations of three pizzas with toppings including pigeon and eel.

Hawaiian pizza swaps ham and pineapple for boar and fig to become Henry's Hawaiian; while Dover Castle meat feast features mutton, goat and pigeon. And seafood pizza becomes Dover Castle Fishy Surprise, which has green sauce topped off with eel.

"We wanted to give people the chance to taste foods that would have been eaten here 800 years ago," said Debs Newman of Dover Castle. "But to encourage people to sample unfamiliar tastes we decided to serve them up in a contemporary way – as pizza toppings. We're hoping the dishes will tickle 21st century taste buds."

The pizzas will be sampled at the castle on Tuesday from noon-2pm, and the most popular will make it on to the castle menu for the rest of September.

One of the new attractions at the castle is the recreation of a kitchen at the time of Henry II.

The pizza sampling is part of a month-long medieval festival with costumed characters conjuring up the sights and sounds of long ago.

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Time called on hundreds of pubs – but quality hop harvest is reason to celebrate

# An end to Labour's dry run



TO THE PINT: Tough times in pub trade

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

**SOBERING** figures reveal that 210 Kent pubs went out of business during the Labour government's 13 years in office.

That's the equivalent of time being called on two pubs a month and represents a 10 per cent drop in the total number when Tony Blair won power in 1997.

Official figures show a loss of 3,350 pubs across the country since then. The Tories have blamed Labour for the decrease, but industry insiders say the figures do not take into account the poorly-run pubs that deserved to be shut down, or the thousands of trendy bars that have risen in their place.

Local government minister Grant Shapps said: "Labour hiked taxes on pubs and did nothing to stop unfair loss-leading by supermarkets. The only people they helped were the yobs who benefited



GRANT SHAPPS

from the 24-hour licensing laws which resulted in a surge in alcohol-fuelled violence.

"Labour must apologise for the harm they did to community pubs across the country.

"The new coalition Government has scrapped Labour's unfair cider tax, will give residents a community right-to-buy to save local pubs, will stop unfair selling by supermarkets and is cutting red tape on live music in pubs."

According to figures from the Valuation Office Agency, there are now 1,870 pubs in Kent compared with 2,080 in 1997.

The biggest reduction was seen in Medway, which now has 30 fewer pubs, while Canterbury, Dover, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Shepway and Thanet have all lost about 20. Dartford and Bexley were the only authorities in Kent to emerge with all their pubs intact. The London borough of Southwark saw the greatest number of closures in the country at 110, with Liverpool (100) and Birmingham (90) close behind.

Phil Thorley, operations director of the east Kent-based Thorley Taverns chain, said supermarkets were partly to blame for the demise of many pubs.

"Below-cost selling is a huge problem for us," he said. "The first thing you see when you walk into a supermarket is big displays of cheap alcohol, and when it's more expensive to buy water in the same place then you know there's something not quite right."

"The Licensing Act was driven through by Labour so you could say they are partly responsible, but the supermarkets have a big part to play and the new Government needs to do something now. Having said that, it's a double-edged sword because some pubs are poorly-run, create problems for a community and deserve to be shut down."

"The figures also don't show how many new bars have opened up over the last few years."

Despite the coalition's promise that it will defend local pubs, landlords have voiced concern about proposed new legislation – including extra charges for late opening and more power for residents over licensing – that could further harm the industry.

However, Mr Thorley said he would reserve judgement for the time being.

"One will always keep an open mind," he added. "You have to be optimistic the Government will do the right thing."



## Chance to drown your sorrows after a damp squib of a summer

THE wet end to summer may have dampened many people's spirits, but for beer-lovers it will all be worth it after brewers revealed a pint will taste even better thanks to the rain, writes Marijke Cox.

After a scorching May and June, master brewers at Faversham-based Shepherd Neame feared the quality of hops would suffer.

But the wet weather which persisted throughout the summer holidays and caused flooding in parts of the county led to a flourish in hop cones, used to add bitterness and flavour to ale.

It has led brewers to predict a great year for beer. David Holmes, Sheps' head brewer, said August's showers combined with short bouts of sunshine will result in a quality harvest.

"Now all we need is a dry September while the hops are picked," he said. "We're not expecting a bumper harvest like last year. It will be a case of quality rather than quantity."

Kent is at the heart of UK hop growing, with its mild climate and fertile chalk-drained soil making for ideal growing conditions.

Hop use in the region can be traced back more than 1,000 years, after the discovery of an Anglo-Saxon boat at Graveney, near Whitstable, revealed the earliest evidence of hops in Britain. Shepherd Neame uses a range of Kent hops to flavour of its award-winning ales and lagers.

Mr Holmes said: "Each hop has its own characteristics, and sometimes we only use one type and other times there might be four or five varieties in one beer."

"We have to make sure they are carefully balanced and complement each other."

"The stage at which the hops are added in the brewing process and in what quantities will affect the overall taste of the beer."

Brewers had been monitoring the growth of hops and feared they could suffer with the hot

weather in the early part of the summer.

Mr Holmes said: "Thanks to the recent rain we expect the cones to flourish, resulting in a high-quality harvest. The picked hops are sent to oast houses where they are dried in readiness for brewing."

The hops pass through rigorous quality tests and are compressed into pellet form for storage. Mr Holmes said: "The hops can change from the previous year, so we have to make sure the flavours are balanced and that our beers still taste the same, even if the bitterness of the hop has altered."

Stephen Rawlings, of the Ashford, Folkestone and Romney Marsh branch of the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA), said the rain was good news.

"It means good quality real ale being produced, which we are pleased about," he said.

"This will help promote real ale and the campaign – it's what it's all about."

### FACT FILE

#### Know your hops

**GOLDINGS:** citrus sweet, lemon, floral, violets and apricot

**FIRST GOLD:** rich citrus, orange peel, dried apricot

**TARGET:** marmalade, peppery geranium, orange

**CHALLENGER:** full fruit palette

**FUGGLES:** earthy, grassy, sensuous

**CASCADE:** floral, spicy, citrus grapefruit



**FINE CROP:** Sheps' head brewer David Holmes in the hop garden





# LETTERS

## Pull the plug on coalition

Proposed Government cuts to the Connexions careers service and Kent Police (pages 2 and 15, KoS, August 29), are indicative of a mis-conceived economic policy which respected think tanks and economists are increasingly heaping scorn on.

Last week, the so-called 'progressive' Budget was condemned by the Institute for Fiscal Studies as regressive by virtue of the fact that the poorest in society would become the biggest losers.

Official statistics also revealed that between April and June the economy grew by nearly £6 billion, the fastest growth for nine years and proof positive that under the stewardship of former chancellor Alistair Darling, Labour's medicine of government investment including the Building Schools for the Future programme, the Scrappage scheme and temporary reduction in VAT, were all putting the economy back on track and leaving the worst effects of the world recession behind us. Many economists now fear the coalition's programme of austerity and public service cuts will push us into a double dip recession with unemployment rising above three million as a consequence. If Liberal Democrat MPs retain any vestige of integrity, they must pull the plug on the Con-Dem coalition and force another election at the earliest opportunity.

*John Stockham, Folkestone*

## Taking the rise on hill repairs

Readers in Boughton, Dunkirk, Hernhill and surrounding areas will be aware of the length of time Boughton Hill has had lane closures and temporary traffic signals due to the partial collapse of the carriageway.

As a resident whose property abuts the closed section of road, I have endured nearly two years of increased traffic and noise and fumes from faulty generators. I have asked KCC on numerous occasions what its proposals are for repairs, and the timescale.

Despite an exchange of 40 emails, I have not received a positive response, merely excuses and contradictory reasons for the delay (mostly relating to "ecology issues").

Local rumours suggest KCC still has no immediate proposals to carry out the repairs due to funding. In the meantime considerable costs continue to be incurred in traffic management measures. It's about time KCC came clean and spelled out exactly what is proposed and when.

*DL Edwards, Dunkirk*

## Those blasted doodlebugs ...

The Battle of Britain was a critical stage in World War Two and should be commemorated, but we should not forget that subsequently (June,

## OPINION: LOOKING AFTER THE LAND

Protect Kent chairman **RICHARD KNOX-JOHNSTON** pays tribute to the groups and individuals who stood firm against the Bearsted road-rail interchange plan

**E**ARLY on August 5, I made my way to The Green at Bearsted after being told the decision of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government into an appeal by AXA against refusal of permission for a road-rail interchange would be announced at 9am.

The village has had to suffer this threat for over three years and the decision, cruelly, had to be postponed because of the general election.

What was at stake? The proposed development was for a massive warehouse complex on 260 acres of farmland adjoining the M20 on one side and the village on the other. AXA made the case that there had to be an interchange in order to get traffic from road to rail. AXA acknowledged it would take time to erect and that villagers would have to endure two years of noise and dust.

It transpired during the inquiry that much of this dust would be created from lime being mixed with gault clay to make it more stable. Lime is very corrosive and if not properly controlled would affect those living nearby.

Although AXA claimed there would be a saving in carbon by moving goods to rail, it did not produce satisfactory statistics to support the argument. It did not know and – although encouraged to do so – did not supply figures to show how much carbon would be produced during construction.

In his report, the inspector appointed by the Government acknowledged the proposal would be an intrusion and harm the beauty of the countryside. He also noted the development would be out of character and alien to neighbouring settlements. He acknowledged it would seriously damage the attractiveness and value of the footpaths and bridleways, which were frequently used.

He was not persuaded there would be much inconvenience to the inhabitants during construction and that the impact of the warehouses would only have a limited effect on the views from Bearsted. However, he felt the cumulative impact would degrade the ambience of the village.



He did, however, question the location of the road-rail interchange and its geographic relation to London. For trips to London and the Midlands he found rail was unlikely to be cost competitive.

He acknowledged the site would be unattractive as a rail interchange and that he could not be reasonably assured that sufficient traffic from Europe would be attracted to it.

The main parties who opposed the AXA proposal were: Maidstone Borough Council; Kent County Council; CPRE Protect Kent; STOP KIG; and the Joint Parishes Group. An army of residents also gave evidence on their own behalf. They attended every day of the inquiry. Indeed on the first two days there were nearly 500 interested people. This left the inspector in no doubt about the strength of local feeling.

What was the result? I arrived at Bearsted Green expecting a few members of the media. Imagine my surprise on finding about 100 residents. Although no-one appeared to have seen the inspector's report, nor the decision from the Secretary of State, there had been a leak that the appeal had been rejected and there was not to be a road-rail interchange at Bearsted. There was jubilation. What did we learn?

That large industrial planning applications can successfully be contested and that it is always worth making a case at a public inquiry. That local information and knowledge is always valuable. That a group of well organised residents can and do make a difference.

For me the concern of the residents of Bearsted is summed up in a statement from Robert Mills, an eight-year-old who took the trouble to give evidence to this inquiry.

He said that if this application were to go ahead he would experience interrupted sleep at a critical time in his education. He quoted his grandfather, who said: "Look after the land because you will not get any more."

He ended with: "Whatever decision you may come to, please remember that I will have to live with it."

Well done, Bearsted.

• **Richard Knox-Johnston, is chairman of Protect Kent, the county branch of CPRE**

1944-March, 1945) nearly 10,000 V1 'doodlebug' rockets were launched at Britain from sites along the French coast. Each V1 carried 850kg of explosives, and was capable of inflicting considerable damage. Their flightpaths converged over west Kent. Nearly 2,500 reached London, many were shot down, barrage balloons accounted for some, others killed 156 people in Kent and injured 1,716. Had they been more accurately targeted, and launched a few years earlier in the war then, coupled with the massive V2 rockets, then the story might have been very different.

This era seems to lack the glamour of the Battle of Britain but was a serious part of our history. How should we commemorate it?

*Ted Prangnell, Ashford*

## Protection that boosts wildlife

The problem of protecting the countryside and wildlife is easily solved without the need for the Government to pay a

penny, at the same time reinstating the habitats wildlife thrives upon. Not only is the solution obvious, it will also allow more land to be available for farmers to use to provide food for the ever-increasing population.

All the Government needs to do is allow owners of small parcels of land, say in excess of 10 acres, to be able to build limited living accommodation on the site. The permission could have restrictions imposed, so the land can only be used for grazing and hay production, with conditions in place that would mean owners had to plant a proportion of the land to orchards or woodland and provide ponds and grassland that has to be used for set aside.

This would help housing issues, farming quotas and budget cuts for payments to farmers for leaving land barren. The penalty for being allowed to live on your own land would be the expense of planting and providing wildlife areas and the maintenance.

When budgets are being cut

the countryside doesn't have to suffer but could benefit to a greater degree than ever.

*Andrew Brown, by email*

## Market forces push poor out

What is a 'reasonable' charge for goods donated to charity organisations? What is the philosophy of these charitable institutions, when they decide to attach a price tag on these gifts, given freely with a warm heart?

How do they arrive at a figure that is fair and equitable to those who seek to purchase items, who use their outlets because they are strapped for cash, like so many pensioners or those on low incomes or benefits. Many use charity shops to obtain their basic needs: clothes, shoes, china, cutlery, furniture and bedding. These special places can provide a sense of dignity and quality to our lives and are of great importance as a source of many essentials. My diary of 2008 notes the many items purchased by me from charity shops, from Tenterden



## Funding uncertainty for new police chief

HE'S been in the job for less than two months, but already Chief Constable Ian Learmonth admits he's up against the biggest challenge of his 36-year career.

Through no fault of his own, the new head of Kent Police has to prepare for massive government spending cuts, despite being given little indication as to exactly how much of the force's funding will be slashed.

Apparently, a cut of 20 per cent equates to £53 million over four years and the potential loss of 1,500 jobs – a statistic made all the more worrying when Home Office cuts of up to 40 per cent are also being considered.

Clearly policing matters to people. Communities need to know there will be officers available if a crime is taking place, so it is vital the coalition Government keeps spending cuts to an absolute minimum.

While most public sector organisations will make similar appeals for mercy, there can be few as vital to the life of a town or city as the police, and they should surely be spared as much as possible when the axe comes down on October 20.

Thankfully, in Kent we appear to have a chief constable who is fully prepared to handle whatever cuts are thrown his way.

Ian Learmonth has some difficult decisions to make over the next few months and years, but the early indications are that he will do what is right for policing in this county during difficult times.

But whether the Government does too is another matter entirely.

## The summer was fun while it lasted

THE children are back at school, the roads are packed with cars and our MPs have started to file back into the House of Commons.

It can only mean one thing – summer is officially over.

But as the mornings draw in and the leaves begin to fall, at least we can look back on the few weeks before the sun gave way to the recent summer rain.

to Dover, and I was struck by the cost of similar items today from the same outlets. Here are a few examples, with today's prices in brackets: shirt £1.50 (£3.50-4.75); T-shirt 50p (£2.50); shoes £2 (£6-15); jackets £3 (£6-15); sweaters 50p (£3.50-10). Is this market forces, I ask myself, or simply greed?

So who are these shops targeting to support them? It certainly isn't the poorest, because any sane organisation would not apply increases of an average of 250 per cent (unless you were an energy supplier) on your main customers.

The irony is that all one needs to do is to call at the superstore on the outskirts of town to find that you can purchase a pack of two shirts for £6.99, shoes for £9.99 and sweaters for £12. And you can often find these at half price in the sales.

It's time these charities were treated the same as any form of business, subjected to the same taxes, VAT, minimum wages, profit and loss accounting and market rents, so that they too come to know the meaning of market forces.

*Chris Barker, Hythe*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30







Advertisers announcement

# Change gives birth to a new type of care in West Kent




Maidstone and  
Tunbridge Wells  
NHS Trust

The way women's and children's services are provided in West Kent is changing. The health service in Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells is focused on giving mothers more choice on where they decide to give birth and ensuring that the standards of care remain high.

Many services will stay the same but there are some exciting developments that will make services better for women and children.

The main change that people will notice next year is a new single consultant-led maternity unit in the modern, state-of-the-art hospital at Pembury.

New services are also being introduced. A midwife-led birthing unit, the first of its kind in West Kent, is being set up at Maidstone Hospital, and this will be similar to those which have been running for some years in Dover, Canterbury and Crowborough. Mothers have told us they want more choice about where they give birth. This kind of birthing centre is an increasingly popular option with mothers who feel that a hospital is too medical an environment to give birth in and want to have a more home-from-home environment, supported by experienced and specialist midwives.

These changes do however mean that there will no longer be a consultant-led unit at Maidstone Hospital. New standards of care, better medical practices and a reduction in doctor's hours mean there aren't enough skilled and experienced maternity and children's doctors to run a duplicate service at both Maidstone and Pembury to the high standards of care and safety we want to provide.



Sarah Gregson, consultant midwife at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust said: *"We are currently not able to provide a consistent service on two sites due to the challenging situation we have with staffing both units, together with an occasional lack of beds. This means that we are not infrequently having to divert women hoping to deliver at Maidstone to Pembury and vice versa, causing a considerable amount of stress and anxiety. This cannot continue. The day a woman gives birth is one of the most important days of her life and she deserves the best possible care".*



*'All the rooms in the new maternity centre will be single, ensuite rooms'*

At the same time, because of the bond between women and children's services it is necessary to have all potentially complex maternity care on the same site as inpatient children's care and special care for babies. Children in Maidstone will continue to have their outpatient appointments and day case procedures at Maidstone Hospital but all complex care, such as surgery, which requires a stay in hospital, will take place at the purpose-built centre of expertise, in the new hospital at Pembury.

Dr Wilson Bolsover, Clinical Director for Women and Children's Services at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust said: *"Reconfiguring our local services gives us the opportunity to make sure we can adapt to these pressures. I am convinced that standards will fall if we do not make these changes."*

*"With the new Tunbridge Wells Hospital at Pembury we now have the means not only to overcome these challenges but also to improve the care environment for all mothers and children who come to our hospitals. We will also be able to provide options for childbirth that have not been available in West Kent before."*

## What happens now for mothers

- Vicky from Hadlow is pregnant, and visits her GP who refers her on to a midwife.
- Vicky's midwife tells her about the antenatal appointments and scans she will have at her local hospital
- She is also told about where she can choose to give birth.
  - If she has an uncomplicated pregnancy this could be at home
    - 5% of women currently do this
  - She can choose to go to a consultant-led hospital unit, at Maidstone Hospital or Pembury Hospital, although because staff are stretched, women hoping to deliver at Pembury can be diverted to Maidstone and vice versa
    - Vicky would like to choose a midwife-led birthing centre but there is not one in West Kent. The nearest are Canterbury or Crowborough
- Vicky gives birth to a healthy baby girl in hospital. Although the birth went smoothly she was not able to use a birthing pool and move around much during the labour
- After the birth she is moved on to a ward with other women. She needs to stay in overnight, but Vicky's partner has to go home as there are no overnight facilities for partners.

## But in future...

- Vicky can still have all her antenatal and postnatal appointments – including all scans – at her local hospital.
- She has real choice about where she wants to give birth:
  - She can give birth at home, in familiar surroundings supported by a midwife
  - She can go to the state-of-the-art consultant-led maternity unit at the new hospital in Pembury which has single rooms and en suite facilities and more doctor and midwife cover than currently available
  - Vicky can go to the new midwife-led birthing unit at Maidstone Hospital, the first in West Kent
- As Vicky is expected to have a normal birth her midwife has said that she can give birth in the birthing centre
- Vicky gives birth to a healthy baby girl in the midwife-led birthing centre. During the labour she was able to move around and use the birthing pool which made her labour less painful than the birth of her first child in hospital
- The birthing centre has facilities for partners to stay, so her husband is able to remain with her and the next day they take their baby home together.

## Frequently asked questions

**Why is the new consultant-led unit going to be at Pembury Hospital?**

There are other consultant-led maternity units within half an hour of Maidstone at Ashford and Medway but none within a safe distance to the south and west of Tunbridge Wells.

**What will happen if a mother experiences complications at the midwife-led birthing unit?**

If there is a need to transfer to hospital during labour this will be done early, by ambulance, accompanied by a midwife. This is proven to be safe in other areas with midwife-led units, and most women go on to have a normal birth.

**Is there still a decision to be made?**

The Secretary of State for Health, Andrew Lansley, has told the local NHS to go ahead with implementing the changes but he wants us to talk to local people about any concerns they still have so we can help develop solutions. The NHS will report to him in September about how this is happening.





# Training, Courses & Careers

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## Free lessons on classroom skills

TEACHER taster courses are being held to give graduates and final-year degree students a chance to experience work in the classroom.

The free sessions are being run by Medway Council in partnership with Kent County Council during October and November.

Julie Jones, the school workforce recruitment advisor for Medway, said there was a national and local shortage of secondary teachers for science, English, mathematics, IT, design and technology, music, languages and religious education.

"These courses are a good way to encourage graduates into teaching," she said.

Steve Wood, teacher recruitment manager for Kent, added: "Although relevant experience is not a prerequisite to get into teacher training, it will help high-quality, eligible candidates onto both PGCE courses and employment-based training courses because it shows the candidate has a real commitment to a teaching career."

For information about the Medway teacher recruitment go to [www.medway.gov.uk/teachingcareers](http://www.medway.gov.uk/teachingcareers), telephone 01634 331209 or email [teaching@medway.gov.uk](mailto:teaching@medway.gov.uk).

For Kent teacher recruitment go to [www.kent-teach.com](http://www.kent-teach.com), phone 01622 696585 or email [recruit.assist@kent.gov.uk](mailto:recruit.assist@kent.gov.uk).

## Part-time study

THE University of Kent is hosting an information morning for people interested in part-time study.

It is being held at the university centre in Avebury Avenue, Tonbridge, on Tuesday, September 7, from 10am-12.30pm, and will provide information about learning opportunities available. Visitors will have the chance to attend talks by subject tutors in art history, literature and local history.

To book, or for more information, contact the centre on 01732 352316 or email [tonbridgeadmin@kent.ac.uk](mailto:tonbridgeadmin@kent.ac.uk).

# Turner gallery given funds to create training initiative

AN ARTS organisation has been awarded £151,000 in funding to provide training opportunities for people claiming benefits, *writes Marijke Cox.*

Turner Contemporary, which is behind Margate's much-anticipated new gallery, due to open next year, will use the money to create jobs in Kent's cultural sector.

Funding is from Thanet Works, a district council-run initiative helping people into training, education or work.

Working with the Dreamland Trust, Turner Contemporary will train 30 people under its new Art Works programme to give them the skills and confidence to apply for jobs within the organisation, at Dreamland, or in other cultural businesses in the area.

Ten of the trainees will be aged 16 to 18-years-old and not in education, employment or training (Neets).

Bosses at Turner Contemporary are also com-



**NEW: Turner Contemporary to open in 2011**

mitted to offering five front-of-house jobs to people who have come through the programme.

Paul Gray, head of operations at the arts organisation, said the scheme shows Turner Contemporary's commitment to the local community.

"More than 670,000 people have been involved in our programmes over the past nine years," he said.

"We are absolutely delighted that funding from Thanet Works will enable us to extend our work with the local community, bringing

exciting training and employment opportunities to people who are currently unemployed.

"When the gallery opens, our front-of-house team will include local people who are proud of Thanet and are trained to give our visitors a warm and professional welcome."

Recruitment for the Art Works programme will take place in the late summer, with training beginning in the autumn.

The Thanet Works initiative aims to help people, mainly those not in education, training or employment, as well as people on particular out-of-work benefits.

It also looks to help those hoping to improve their skills or gain qualifications.

Funding comes from central government to Thanet District Council and is available until 2011. Money is used to try different ideas and new ways of working or supporting particular groups of people.

For more details on Turner Contemporary visit [www.turnercontemporary.org](http://www.turnercontemporary.org) or for further information about the Thanet Works scheme go to [www.thanet.gov.uk](http://www.thanet.gov.uk).

## Landscaping project Neet experience for young

YOUNG people not in education, employment or training (Neets) are getting their hands dirty as part of a new community project.

Groups made up of 16-19-year-olds will tackle a range of landscaping jobs at Oakwood House in Maidstone over the next two months, equipping them with work-based qualifications and experience.

The Kent Community Programme, run by Kent County Council's supporting independence scheme, aims to give people the motiva-

tion to pursue training and employment.

Cllr Mike Hill, Kent County Council (KCC) cabinet member for community services, said it was an excellent way for young people to move forward with their lives and make a contribution to their communities.

Referrals come through Connexions youth advice service, the Youth Offending Service, social services and the NHS. KCC's Kent Safe Schools team helps participants at the end of the project to move into work or training.

Oakwood House is also helping another Kent resident to get back into long-term employment through the Future Jobs Fund.

Danielle Standen, 21, started a placement there as a hospitality assistant in April, 2010.

The Future Jobs Fund is a national scheme offering young people aged between 18-24 six-month placements to help them gain the skills to find work.

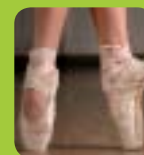
It is available for people who have been unemployed for six months or longer.



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## Alzheimer's & Dementia

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17.5 hours per week (over 2 days)  
£8,400 per annum plus mileage.

This is a joint initiative with the Alzheimer's Society Kent & Medway Locality

*Closing date for completed applications is 20th September 2010. In the first instance, please call the ADSS office on 01474 533990*

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## Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

### Customer Services Supervisor

Ref: P0070

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Maidstone

An exciting opportunity has arisen for an excellent candidate to supervise, motivate and coordinate the activities of a team, engaged in all Customer Service activities, to enable the Maidstone Campus to meet the College's strategic aims and its day to day responsibility to provide high quality education and training.

The successful candidate will have a customer-focussed approach towards excellence, be confident and self motivated with the ability to work on own initiative demonstrating confidence in decision making. The candidate must also have the ability to plan, prioritise and monitor their own work and the work of the team.

The role will be working closely with the Campus Manager and the Health and Safety Manager to provide a robust service to the College.

A recognised customer service and / or management qualification would be desirable along with basic health and safety training with a commitment to gain an IoSH qualification in "Managing Safely".

A track record of managing teams would be advantageous for this exciting role.

**Closing date: Wednesday 15 September 2010**

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website [www.rbli.co.uk](http://www.rbli.co.uk) for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk). Alternatively, please e-mail [job.applications@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:job.applications@midkent.ac.uk). For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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We are looking for 4 candidates to work as part of a growing R&D team located in East Kent, primarily focused on High Definition video conversion systems based around our proprietary CORIO® technology.

### R&D Manager - £49-55K + Benefits

Primarily responsible for the Project, Product and Personnel Management of the R&D Department including Customer liaison for OEM products and bespoke design.  
Key Skills: Experience in Team Leading/Management of R&D team; Good Project Management skills; Good Systems Design knowledge

### Windows Software Engineer - £39-45K

Primarily responsible for the design and development of Windows & Web based technologies to control our range of video processing products  
Key Skills: Fluent in Visual studio C# / Visual Basic; Experience of designing GUI's with timeline functionality; Web Development

### Hardware Design Engineer - £39-45K

Primarily responsible for Initiating and progressing development of the Schematic & PCB designs from concept to production & compliance with EMC & safety standards  
Key Skills: Experience in Digital & Analogue design, preferably incorporating video technologies; Experience of schematic entry and multilayer PCB design for complete design cycle from concept to production release

### R&D Test Engineer - £29-35K

Primarily responsible for the support of R&D for prototyping & testing of new designs, creation of technical documentation, maintaining quality of product and documentation  
Key Skills: Experience in electronics product testing role (Hardware/Software etc), familiar with quality controls & testing standards, Good communication skills

To apply for any of these positions contact:  
Amanda Holges, TV One Ltd, Unit V, Continental Approach, Westwood Industrial Estate,  
Margate, Kent. CT9 4JG Tel: 01843 873300 [recruit.europe@tvone.com](mailto:recruit.europe@tvone.com) <http://www.tvone.eu>

To advertise in this section  **01303 817040**





# The future of local media

Would you like to be a part of an exciting and growing team developing our portfolio across Kent's towns and districts?

## Media Sales Executives

We have an opportunity for highly motivated people to create and sell multi-media solutions in our market-leading portfolio of newspapers and magazines.

We're not looking for people to just take orders; we're looking for people who can provide first class solutions for our customers.

We believe good customer service is at the heart of our success and we want to recruit people who can develop excellent business relationships and present effective and innovative ideas that will provide real value and response for our customers.

## Digital Sales Executives

You will play the key role in selling advertising and sponsorship across our market-leading portfolio of websites and mobile products.

Candidates will possess a proven track record in media sales, combining excellent communication and presentation skills, a great business acumen, tenacity, and the ability to build positive business relationships. Ultimately, we need an articulate and assured sales person with a structured sales technique, a positive manner and great all-round organisation and IT skills.

## Other Vacancies

KOS Media is always interested to hear from people with ideas who would be interested in a career in multi-media, within local or regional markets.

Whatever your skill set and experience is, please do tell us about yourself and send in your CV, with a covering letter, telling us what you have to offer and how you see yourself working at an innovative media company such as KOS Media.

We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.

## To apply send your CV with covering letter to:

Jason Pyne, Development Director  
KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS.  
Or by email: [jason.pyne@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:jason.pyne@kosmedia.co.uk)

## Events and Exhibitions Executive

You will play the key role in selling and coordinating our groups events, exhibitions and sponsorship across our market-leading portfolio of newspapers, magazines, show guides, websites and mobile products.

- All vacancies come with the opportunity to earn high bonus potential, which is uncapped and based on your skills and desire to achieve major market share gains.

We're looking for professional individuals who are able to take ownership for their client group and work on their own initiative. Above all you will need to deliver total commitment and dedication to the business to help us continue to be the very best.

Applicants must have a full and valid manual driving licence. Ideal candidates will be computer literate with a sales/marketing background and the ability to provide industry-leading customer service.

## About us

KOS Media publishes the UK award-winning Kent on Sunday newspaper and a series of free weekly newspapers, magazines and associated websites and mobile products.

The company produces [kentnews.co.uk](http://kentnews.co.uk) and [yourkentTV](http://yourkentTV), an internet-based TV service providing regional and local news, business and sport, plus websites for jobs, property and motors.

KOS Media's newspapers have won more than 10 national awards, including UK Regional Newspaper of the Year, and UK Free Weekly Newspaper of the Year six times.

In June, 2010, media group Archant purchased KOS Media.

## Archant is the UK's largest independently owned regional media business

It is a community media company active in the fields of regional newspaper and magazine publishing, contract printing and internet communications. All its titles serve clearly defined communities, based around locations or interest groups.

Archant can trace its roots back more than 160 years and today remains one of the country's largest independent media businesses. As a private company it employs 1,850 people right across England. It has an annual turnover of £142 million.

The newspaper division, Archant Regional, produces four daily regional newspapers and around 60 weekly titles with a combined circulation of 2.25 million copies every week. It is a UK top six regional newspaper publisher. It also publishes many of the group's 180 websites and a number of its magazines.

Archant also owns three magazine companies, which between them produce around 80 magazines.



Award Winning Company

KOS Media is a division **ARCHANT** REGIONAL



**TERMS AND CONDITIONS****KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD  
TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
- It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
- All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
- All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
- Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
- Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser where applicable. Approval or permission must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.
- Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation placing an advertisement on behalf of another.
- A guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
- No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
- Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be made in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of publishing.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd will seek to recover, in full, all outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to claim damages for any potential vexatious action via the advertiser.
- Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
- A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
- Seasonal contracts, Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
- All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
- The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd within the advertiser's agreement. (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at its standard published hourly rate should the advertiser still wish to use KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement. The advertiser will approve and accept that there are only two choices of voice-over and music offered by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-overs or non-copyright free music it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PRS rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to approve the TV production by the deadlines agreed between both parties will result in KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
- Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
- Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd and any action as a result of the public or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
- a. All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice, time to be of the essence. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.  
b. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any surcharges for breaking the contract.  
c. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.  
d. Notwithstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.  
e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.  
f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
- Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
- Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
- All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
- The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
- An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
- Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from June 2008

Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR  
Tel 01303 817040 Fax 01303 817004  
Email: info@kosmedia.co.uk



Award winning publications

www.kentnews.co.uk

## PART TIME MERCHANDISER

Kos Media is one of the fastest growing multi media companies serving the county of Kent.

We publish 14 weekly titles including the award winning Kent on Sunday and Kent on Saturday, as well 20 news websites.

We are looking to expand our promotional activity in the West of the county, promoting Tunbridge Wells on Saturday and Tunbridge Wells on Sunday, and are looking for a merchandiser for the area, to ensure that these products are displayed, and promoted in a professional way.

The duties will include visiting newsagents and outlets and also handing out promotional copies in the centre of Tunbridge Wells, and surrounding area.

The successful candidate will need to be flexible, and self motivated, as well as having good communication skills. The hours will be 10 hours per week with a hourly rate of £7.50, mileage will also be paid.

To apply please contact **Barbara Coker** on **01303 817072**  
or email **barbara.coker@kosmedia.co.uk**

KOS Media | Apple Barn | Hythe Road | Smeth | Ashford | Kent | TN25 6SS  
www.kentnews.co.uk | www.jobsforkent.co.uk | www.yourkenttv.co.uk



Award Winning Company

# Bright new careers online

### Chefs and Waitstaff required for restaurant in Bexleyheath

Would suit someone looking to advance their career.  
Must have necessary qualifications.

For more information telephone  
Bobby 07790924436 or  
info@thebankrestaurantandbar.co.uk

### Painters/ Decorators Wanted

**Ramsgate Area**  
CIS & CSCS Essential  
Immediate Start  
Tel 01279 400580

### En-Vi EXPERIENCED HAIR STYLISTS (male and female) required for Salon.

Contact Claire on 01634 840880 or  
email [claire1ice@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:claire1ice@hotmail.co.uk)

## Young Persons' Drug and Alcohol Treatment Worker

£21,519 – £27,849 + Essential Car User Allowance of up to £1,239 per annum  
37 hours per week • Based Medway

KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors.

This post will involve one-to-one work with young drug and alcohol users (aged 10 – 18) experiencing complex difficulties. These may include concerns around mental health, safeguarding, homelessness, offending and chaotic substance misuse issues.

Covering the Medway towns and surrounding area, we are looking for someone with good substance misuse knowledge, excellent communication and casework skills and proven experience of working effectively with young drug and alcohol users. Applicants with experience of working with young people with a dual diagnosis will be particularly welcome.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from [www.kca.org.uk](http://www.kca.org.uk) Alternatively, you can email [recruitment@kca.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@kca.org.uk) or call 01795 590795 and select option three. Please quote reference 704.

Closing date: Midday on Monday 13 September 2010.  
Interview date: Monday 27 September 2010.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.  
Charity No: 292824

[www.kca.org.uk](http://www.kca.org.uk)

Progressive, Responsive, Effective



## BRICKLAYERS

Required

Minimum of 5 years experience. Local and London work. Wages and hours to be discussed. Must have CSCS.

**For more information please call  
Brian on 0845 5213236**

### Martin Tolhurst Partnership LLP

are looking to recruit a full time  
**Experienced Litigation Secretary**  
for their Gravesend Office

Please apply enclosing CV and covering letter to

Cathanne Craigie - HR Manager  
Martin Tolhurst Partnership LLP  
7 Wrotham Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 0PD  
email - [ccraigie@martintolhurst.co.uk](mailto:ccraigie@martintolhurst.co.uk)  
Telephone - 01474 546018 Fax - 01474 560771

**Closing date 17th September 2010**

### Upchurch River Valley Golf Course Ltd

Young, smart, enthusiastic Chef with City and Guilds 1 and 2 or equivalent, required to work in our busy pool side bar.

40-45 hours per week over 7 days  
with possible bonus.

For an application form please contact  
**Martyn Sedge or Sue Capper** on  
**01634 378116/360626**



### RGN and RMN's Full time/Part time/Bank

Applecroft Care Home LTD are currently seeking enthusiastic and motivated staff for their 75 bedded EMI/Nursing Home in River, Dover.

We are looking for Nurses who have experience of working with elderly residents with Dementia. This is an exciting opportunity to use your nursing skills within a supportive and flexible team environment.

Salary negotiable depending on experience with the opportunity for promotion within the company. The successful applicants must have a valid NMC PIN. For more information please contact Miss Kate Sheppard Home Manager on 01304 821 331 or email [kate@abbeyhealthcare.org.uk](mailto:kate@abbeyhealthcare.org.uk)





# Public Sector

You can also find the latest jobs online: [www.jobsforkent.co.uk](http://www.jobsforkent.co.uk)

KOSMEDIA

Telephone: 01303 817040

Fax: 01303 817004

Email: [appointments@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:appointments@kosmedia.co.uk)

Online: [www.jobsforkent.co.uk](http://www.jobsforkent.co.uk)

## HEAD TEACHER

(Group 1) Salary Scale: L1 – L18

**St. John's Church of England VC Infant School,  
4 New Street, Chatham. ME4 6RH Tel: (01634) 844135**

Following retirement, our friendly, one-form entry school in central Chatham needs a caring, enthusiastic and forward-thinking head-teacher, starting January 2011. With a strong Christian ethos, the school celebrates cultural diversity, working closely with the local community, the local Parish Church and as a feeder school with Balfour Junior School. The new head teacher will value and develop these relationships. With proven management experience at KS1, you will build and manage a team to continue a 148 year tradition of excellent education for pupils of all abilities and backgrounds in a "happy and harmonious atmosphere" (Ofsted 2009).

Come and visit: **"The Village School in the Heart of Medway"**

Please phone Mrs. L. Day at the school from 1st September to make an appointment.

St. John's Infant School is committed to safeguarding young people. The post is subject to an enhanced CRB check. Applications will only be accepted by application form and supporting letter. References will be taken up before interviews, to be held during the week beginning 27th September.

For an application pack, please contact: Susan Bowers, HR Services, Schools, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham. Kent ME4 4TR Tel: (01634) 331100 email [susan.bowers@medway.gov.uk](mailto:susan.bowers@medway.gov.uk)

Starting date: 1st January 2011

Closing date for applications: 1pm Friday 17th September



Ashford's Specialist School for Sport, Information Technology...

**The North School**  
...and the rural dimension

## Community Assistant KS5 • Pro-rata - Term time only

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic, positive and committed person to join our highly regarded Communities of Learning. This is an important role supporting our Heads of Communities of Learning within our vertical student support system. Applicants must be able to work collaboratively and have some prior experience of working with children or young adults.

The successful applicant will require an enhanced disclosure. Further information about the disclosure scheme can be found at [www.disclosure.gov.uk](http://www.disclosure.gov.uk).

For further information or an application pack please contact the school on 01233 614600 or email [jmanning@north.kent.sch.uk](mailto:jmanning@north.kent.sch.uk)

Closing date for applications: 13th September 2010



[www.north.kent.sch.uk](http://www.north.kent.sch.uk)

[www.kent-teach.com](http://www.kent-teach.com)

## Teachers Needed Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

- ✓ Daily/weekly/termly supply opportunities
- ✓ Excellent rates of pay – paid weekly
- ✓ Free in-service training and CPD assessment
- ✓ Free use of resource centre
- ✓ An out-of-hours service

Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

To find out more information  
and to register with us, please call us free on:

**0800 731 6871**

or email

[enquiry.ers@capita.co.uk](mailto:enquiry.ers@capita.co.uk)

**CAPITA**

EDUCATION RESOURCING

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To  
advertise  
in this  
section



**01303  
817040**

## Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

### Lecturer in Electrical Installation

Ref: P0357

Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience)  
Medway

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The successful candidate will contribute to the development, delivery and teaching of Electrical Installation programmes. The ideal candidate must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate must have; an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one. Good IT skills and the ability to work within a team are essential.

**Closing date: 12 noon on Wednesday 15 September 2010.  
Interviews to be held on Monday 20 September 2010.**

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website [www.rbli.co.uk](http://www.rbli.co.uk) for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk). Alternatively, please e-mail [job.applications@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:job.applications@midkent.ac.uk). For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer



Be the first in line to  
receive the latest  
top Kent jobs

Register your details and we'll  
email you daily with new jobs that  
match your selected criteria

**JobsforKent.co.uk**

The smart way to find a job in the County

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The smart way to find your next job  
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**South East Coast Ambulance Service** **NHS**  
NHS Trust

**PASSIONATE ABOUT PATIENT CARE.**

**Qualified & Registered Nurses (Clinical Advisors)**

Band 5, £21,176 - £27,534 + 25% unsocial hour payment  
Banstead (Surrey), Lewes (Sussex), Coxheath (Kent)

The service is embarking upon an exciting journey to change the way that patients access urgent and emergency care over the telephone, this has created opportunities for qualified clinicians to staff our Clinical Advisor Desk. You will be champions for change, providing a clinical presence in the Control Room and improving patient access to a wide variety of pathways through the Directory of Services, thus ensuring patients receive the most appropriate advice and treatment based on their needs.

These roles will suit Nurses from a variety of backgrounds and would be ideal for those returning to work following a career break, recent nursing graduates or those wishing to move away from a traditional ward, community or outpatient environment. Consideration will be given to full or part-time hours.

For an informal discussion, please contact Daniel Garratt, Senior Distribution Manager on 07825 386491 or apply online at [www.jobs.nhs.uk](http://www.jobs.nhs.uk) quoting reference 278-CLINADVVISOR-0510-JT


**Closing date: 18 November 2010.**

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

**Stonewall**  
DIVERSITY CHAMPION

**www.secab.nhs.uk**

To advertise in this section  **01303 817040**



**THAMESVIEW School**  
*with Business & Enterprise Status*

Thong Lane,  
Gravesend,  
Kent, DA12 4LF  
Tel: 01474 566552 Fax: 01474 537405  
email: [school@thamesview.kent.sch.uk](mailto:school@thamesview.kent.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.thamesview.kent.sch.uk](http://www.thamesview.kent.sch.uk)

**Headteacher: Miss R. Hughes B.Ed Hons**

## LIBRARIAN

37 hours per week (8.00am to 4.00pm)  
40 weeks per year (Term Time plus 1 Week)  
KCC Salary Scheme 5 (pts 14-17) £16,793 to £18,471 pa  
Pro rata to £14,492.36 to £15,940.47 pa

We wish to appoint an enthusiastic member of staff into the new role of Librarian with effect from October 2010 or sooner. We are looking for someone with a passion for reading and enthusiasm for working with young people to take an active part in the setting up and day-to-day running of a new library area in our new school.

The successful applicant must:

- Have good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Be enthusiastic and confident when working with young people
- Have a good level of literacy
- Be able to demonstrate a passion for reading and competency with ICT.
- Work with diligence and accuracy.
- Be confident to work independently and multi-task
- Be willing to undertake training

We are in the current wave of *Building Schools for the Future (BSF)*, and have just moved into a brand new school on our existing site with incredible facilities for indoor and outdoor learning. We have not had library facilities for some years, so are looking for someone to help develop a dedicated area to a brand new library facility with a generous budget.

If you think you have the qualities required for this role, you may obtain further details and an application form by telephoning the school 01474 566552 ext. 8081120 or email [k.allen@thamesview.kent.sch.uk](mailto:k.allen@thamesview.kent.sch.uk)

CVs without an application form will not be accepted.

Closing date: 7th September 2010  
Interview date: 13th September 2010

*We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students. Appointment to this post will require an Enhanced Disclosure via the Criminal Records Bureau. Thamesview School operates a non-smoking policy*



# JobsforKent.co.uk

A selection of the 100s of Local Jobs online

## Accountancy

### Administrator and PA to Doctor

**Canterbury**  
Salary TBC  
**To apply/more information:**  
Wellness Practice  
[applications@jobsforkent.co.uk](mailto:applications@jobsforkent.co.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: ISC1

### Jobs in Sevenoaks

**Sevenoaks**  
Salary £neg  
**To apply/more information:**  
Interpersonnel  
[jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk](mailto:jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: 1699

### Office Assistant

**Tunbridge Wells**  
Salary Starting Salary £11,000  
DRAKES PLUMBING SUPPLIES LTD TUNBRIDGE WELLS FULL TIME OFFICE ASSISTANT We are looking for an organised individual to join our busy Accounts Office team. Duties will include checking, matching, inputting and filing supplier invoices and credits, liaising with suppliers, and other general office duties. Computer literacy and full clean driving licence are essential. Starting salary £11,000. Please call Alison Aisher or Pat Bonner for an application form on 01892 55 99 15, or e-mail [mail@drakes.biz](mailto:mail@drakes.biz) No agencies or canvassing

## Administration, Secretarial, PA

### OFFICE MANAGER

**Birchington**  
Salary Negotiable  
Independent Teachers of TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION (Simple, effortless Yoga for the mind) REQUIRE OFFICE MANAGER Job Share, 16 hours weekly rising to 24. One morning a week plus afternoons. Also covering mornings for holidays and other absence. Flexible and enthusiastic individual able to work with our current Office Manager to support our small but growing team of professional teachers covering Britain and Ireland. Requires efficiency and skill to develop the office management; sympathetic telephone manner with enquirers and energetic promotional skills with partners such as doctors, therapists, yoga teachers, business and the media. A varied and challenging position, but low-stress as there are, at present, no staff to manage! REQUIRES experience of Microsoft Office and Outlook, plus lively practical knowledge of use of the most up to date computer program & applications with C.V. TO: Colin & Sue Beckley, Directors, The Meditation Trust, 51 Station Road, Birchington, CT17 9DJ FOR INFO PACK ABOUT TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION COURSES CALL 01843 841010

### Receptionist / Customer Service

**Canterbury**  
Salary negotiable  
**To apply/more information:**  
Wellness Practice  
[applications@jobsforkent.co.uk](mailto:applications@jobsforkent.co.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: cust 001

### Marketing, Sales and Communication

**Canterbury**  
Salary 12,500-26,500 depending on skills  
FULL-TIME, PART-TIME/ JOBSHARE MOTIVATED; READY We are looking for someone who has an ability to communicate confidently with members of the public with a level of service that exceeds expectation. This role is office based within the health and wellness sector and also

includes community based events for promotions. Only apply if you are interested in personal growth, development and a career. Whilst the role has a base salary depending on your demonstrative skills, there is huge potential for bonuses for any applicant. That is why you have to be the kind of person who enjoys having goals and helping people get well and stay well. If you love success, you are eager to help people and want to make a difference, please apply immediately. **To apply/more information:** Wellness Practice [applications@jobsforkent.co.uk](mailto:applications@jobsforkent.co.uk) Quoting Job Ref: 2010-02

### Administrator and PA to Doctor

**Canterbury**  
Salary TBC  
**To apply/more information:**  
Wellness Practice  
[applications@jobsforkent.co.uk](mailto:applications@jobsforkent.co.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: ISC1

### Receptionist / Customer Service

**Canterbury**  
Salary negotiable  
**To apply/more information:**  
Wellness Practice  
[applications@jobsforkent.co.uk](mailto:applications@jobsforkent.co.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: cust 001

### PA to CEO

**Dover**  
Salary £20,186 - £21,740 per annum pro-rata  
PA to CEO  
Location: Dover Kent Salary: £20,186 - £21,740 per annum pro-rata Contract: 30 hours over 5 days Migrant Helpline are currently seeking a highly organised, capable and self-motivated individual with previous experience in a secretarial or PA role, preferably in a senior management setting. Reporting directly to the Chief Executive this role will involve all secretarial support including extensive diary management, minute taking, travel arrangements, record keeping and organising internal and external meetings, as well as some report writing and general administration. Applicants must have excellent written and spoken English, IT skills in word processing, spreadsheets, presentations and email are essential, with particular knowledge of MS Office 2007 packages. The successful candidate must be a confident self-starter, with the ability to perform well under pressure and have a meticulous approach to this. This position will ideally suit a &lsquo;hands on&rsquo; team player with a willing &lsquo;can do&rsquo; approach and a good sense of humour. Previous experience of working in the voluntary sector is desirable. A full UK driving licence is essential for this role. The ability to speak a second language is desirable. Closing date 9th September. Interviews 21st September. Please note CVs will not be accepted for this role. For an application pack please telephone 01304 218719 or email [Justine.whittle@migranthelpline.org](mailto:Justine.whittle@migranthelpline.org) Migrant Helpline is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from individuals who consider themselves to have a disability.

### Administrator and PA to Doctor

**Canterbury**  
Salary TBC  
**To apply/more information:**  
Wellness Practice  
[applications@jobsforkent.co.uk](mailto:applications@jobsforkent.co.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: PA Aug10

### Jobs in Sevenoaks

**Sevenoaks**  
Salary £neg  
We are currently expanding our candidate database in the Sevenoaks area. Should you be

looking for permanent or temporary employment and would like to register your details with us then please email your CV to us, along with your salary expectation, and positions considered. Full time, part time, permanent, contract and temporary.

**To apply/more information:**  
Interpersonnel  
[jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk](mailto:jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: 1699

### Receptionist / Customer Service

**Canterbury**  
Salary Negotiable  
FULL-TIME (PART-TIME CONSIDERED)  
Working hours are: Mon - Thu 6.20am - 6pm (2 hour lunch break)  
Fri 6.20am - midday (depending on workload) Can you ... provide excellent service "Walt Disney style"? Are you: • Hard working and motivated • Enthusiastic and committed • Organised and efficient • Work well solo as well as be part of a team • Thrive on self-improvement and success? Then we have the job for you!! We require minimum qualifications of 5 GCSE's Grade C and above (must include English and Mathematics), basic computer skills are preferable and some experience in a similar post although full training will be given. If you think you have what we are looking for and consider yourself to be confident and outgoing, please apply in writing with your CV to: Monique Verlaan, HR Manager, The Wellness Practice Ltd, 30 Whitstable Road, Blean nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 9EB  
**To apply/more information:**  
Wellness Practice  
[applications@jobsforkent.co.uk](mailto:applications@jobsforkent.co.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: Rec Aug10

### Experienced Conveyancing Secretary

**Ashford**  
Salary TBC  
**To apply/more information:**  
Martin Tolhurst Partnership Solicitors  
[ccraigie@martintolhurst.co.uk](mailto:ccraigie@martintolhurst.co.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

### Office Assistant

**Tunbridge Wells**  
Salary Starting Salary £11,000  
**To apply/more information:**  
Drakes Plumbing Supplies Ltd  
[mail@drakes.biz](mailto:mail@drakes.biz)  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

### Studio Assistant

**Folkestone**  
Salary £20k p.a.  
Full-time, Permanent Employer: Cognitive Media Cognitive Media provides visual content for clients using scribing and visual synthesis techniques. We scribe live or on video, and our completed products end up in workplaces all around the world. We're looking for an organised and self-motivated Studio Assistant to join our team in modern offices right in the heart of Folkestone's Creative Quarter. The Studio Assistant will keep the studio running smoothly and clients up to date with progress on projects and will need to be an excellent communicator and team player, with experience of providing administrative support. Closing date: Fri 3rd September 2010 Interview: Weds 15th September 2010 For more information and to download an application please visit [www.cognitivemediacreative.co.uk](http://www.cognitivemediacreative.co.uk) We have retained Year One Consulting to help with this recruitment. For an informal discussion about either role, please call Cassy or Mary Ann on 01227 811 777

**To apply/more information:**  
Cognitive Media  
[applications@jobsforkent.co.uk](mailto:applications@jobsforkent.co.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

## Administrator

### Bearsted

**Salary Competitive Rate of Pay**  
BARTY HOUSE NURSING HOME, BEARSTED ADMINISTRATOR (Full Time Temporary) Applicants should be of smart appearance, possess excellent organisational skills, have a good telephone manner and people skills, together with good computer ability (Microsoft Office). Competitive rate of pay. For more information please contact Jacqui Butler on 01622 737025 or email [cv to jacqui.butler@canfordhealthcare.co.uk](mailto:cv to jacqui.butler@canfordhealthcare.co.uk)  
**To apply/more information:**  
Barty House Nursing Home  
[applications@jobsforkent.co.uk](mailto:applications@jobsforkent.co.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

### Experienced Litigation Secretary

**Gravesend**  
Salary Negotiable  
Martin Tolhurst Solicitors in Gravesend are looking to recruit a full time experienced Litigation Secretary. Please apply enclosing CV and covering letter to Cathanne Craigie - Personnel Manager Martin Tolhurst Partnership LLP, Wrotham Road Gravesend Kent DA11 0PD Email - [ccraigie@martintolhurst.co.uk](mailto:ccraigie@martintolhurst.co.uk) Telephone - 01474 546018 Closing date 17 September 2010.  
**To apply/more information:**  
Martin Tolhurst Partnership Solicitors  
[ccraigie@martintolhurst.co.uk](mailto:ccraigie@martintolhurst.co.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

## Art and Design

### Graphics Assistant

**Folkestone**  
Salary £13,125 p.a. (based on £17.5k full-time)  
GRAPHICS ASSISTANT  
Location: Folkestone Salary: £13,125 p.a. (based on £17.5k full-time) Contract: Part-time, Permanent Employer: Cognitive Media Cognitive Media provides visual content for clients using scribing and visual synthesis techniques. We scribe live or on video, and our completed products end up in workplaces all around the world. We're looking for a calm and methodical Graphics Assistant to join our team in modern offices right in the heart of Folkestone's Creative Quarter. The Graphics Assistant will support on scribing projects and need to be detail focussed and able to work fast and accurately towards tight deadlines. Closing date: Mon 13th September 2010 Interview: Mon 27th September 2010 For more information and to download an application please visit [www.cognitivemediacreative.co.uk](http://www.cognitivemediacreative.co.uk) We have retained Year One Consulting to help with this recruitment. For an informal discussion about either role, please call Cassy or Mary Ann on 01227 811 777  
**To apply/more information:**  
Cognitive Media  
[applications@jobsforkent.co.uk](mailto:applications@jobsforkent.co.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

### Studio Assistant

**Folkestone**  
Salary £20k p.a.  
**To apply/more information:**  
Cognitive Media  
[applications@jobsforkent.co.uk](mailto:applications@jobsforkent.co.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

## Catering, Hospitality

### Chef

**Sittingbourne**  
Salary  
**To apply/more information:**  
Upchurch River Valley Golf Course Ltd  
[applications@jobsforkent.co.uk](mailto:applications@jobsforkent.co.uk)  
Quoting Job Ref: kos





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## Chef

### BexleyHeath

**Salary** Negotiable  
Chefs and Waitstaff required for restaurant in Bexley Heath. Would suit someone looking to advance their career. Must have necessary qualifications. For more information tel. Bobby 07790924436 or info@thebankrestaurantandbar.co.uk

## Waitstaff

### BexleyHeath

**Salary** Salary Negotiable  
Chefs and Waitstaff required for restaurant in Bexley Heath. Would suit someone looking to advance their career. Must have necessary qualifications. For more information tel. Bobby 07790924436 or info@thebankrestaurantandbar.co.uk

## Child Care

### ALL NURSERY NURSES URGENTLY NEEDED

#### Maidstone

**Salary** £7 per hour  
**To apply/more information:** Education Sense  
office@education-sense.com  
Quoting Job Ref: NNUR

### 4 x Care Assistants Needed!!

#### Medway/Maidstone

**Salary** £8 - £11.00 per hour (depending on shift times)  
4 x Care Assistants Needed in the Medway and Maidstone Area. We are a Multi-Award Winning Agency with a passion for both serving Clients and Candidates in a fair manner. You must be in receipt of either a qualification or a minimum of 2 years experience with working in Residential, Nursing, EMI homes or with Adults with Learning Difficulties. A Driving License is a bonus but not essential. The position requires thorough referencing and an enhanced police disclosure. Any offer of employment is subject to these being deemed satisfactory. Pay is between £8.00 and £11.00 per hour depending on shift times. Please indicate any interest by submitting your C.V. This advert has been placed by The Sense Partnership, part of Education Sense Ltd.  
**To apply/more information:** Education Sense  
office@education-sense.com  
Quoting Job Ref: Care

## Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

## Painters

### Swanley

**Salary** Negotiable  
Painters required must have UTR number and CSCS card. Must have experience in new build. Call 01322 666955  
**To apply/more information:** Brushes Ltd  
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

## Curtain Wall Fixers

### Hastings

**Salary** Negotiable  
**To apply/more information:** NA Curtain Walling Ltd  
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

## Customer Service, Call Centre

### Telesales Team Leader

#### Ashford

**Salary** Negotiable  
Telesales Team Leader (office based) We are looking for an experienced telephone sales

executive who is seeking to further their career, as well as develop and enhance our telephone sales team. We're not looking for someone to just take orders; we're looking for someone who can provide first class solutions for our customers. We believe good customer service is at the heart of our success and we want to recruit people who can develop excellent business relationships and present effective and innovative ideas that will provide real value and response for our customers. This vacancy comes with the opportunity to earn high bonus potential, which is uncapped and based on your skills and desire to achieve major market share gains. We're looking for professional individuals who are able to take ownership for their client group and work on their own initiative. Above all you will need to deliver total commitment and dedication to the business to help us continue to be the very best. Applicants must have a full and valid manual driving licence. Ideal candidates will be computer literate with a sales/marketing background and the ability to provide industry-leading customer service. We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks, annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation. To apply send your CV with covering letter to: Jason Pyne, Development Director KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS. Or by email: jason.pyne@kosmedia.co.uk

### Events and Exhibitions Sales Executive

#### Ashford

**Salary** Negotiable  
Events and Exhibitions Sales Executive  
You will play the key role in selling and coordinating our groups events, exhibitions and sponsorship across our market-leading portfolio of newspapers, magazines, show guides, websites and mobile products. This vacancy comes with the opportunity to earn high bonus potential, which is uncapped and based on your skills and desire to achieve major market share gains. We're looking for professional individuals who are able to take ownership for their client group and work on their own initiative. Above all you will need to deliver total commitment and dedication to the business to help us continue to be the very best. Applicants must have a full and valid manual driving licence. Ideal candidates will be computer literate with a sales/marketing background and the ability to provide industry-leading customer service. We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks, annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation. To apply send your CV with covering letter to: Jason Pyne, Development Director KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS. Or by email: jason.pyne@kosmedia.co.uk

### Administrator and PA to Doctor

#### Canterbury

**Salary** TBC  
FULL-TIME (PART-TIME CONSIDERED) Working hours are: Mon - Thu 6.20am - 6pm (2 hour lunch break) Fri 6.20am - midday (depending on workload) Are you looking for a change in

direction or looking to take a new route with your skills? An opportunity has arisen within a rapidly expanding, exceptional health centre. The position is extremely sought after and is available immediately. We require minimum qualifications of 5 GCSE's Grade C and above (must include English and Mathematics), basic computer skills are preferable and some experience in a similar role although full training will be given. • Hard working and motivated • Enthusiastic and committed • Organised and efficient • Works well within a team • Thrives on self improvement and success If you consider yourself to be confident and outgoing and you have what it takes to make this role your own, please apply in writing with your CV to: Monique Verlaan, HR Manager, The Wellness Practice Ltd, 30 Whitstable Road, Blean nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 9EB  
**To apply/more information:** Wellness Practice  
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: PA Aug10

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JobsforKent.co.uk

To advertise in this section or online  
01303 817040

### Jobs in Sevenoaks

#### Sevenoaks

**Salary** £neg  
**To apply/more information:** Interpersonnel  
jtk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: 1699

### Receptionist / Customer Service

#### Canterbury

**Salary** Negotiable  
**To apply/more information:** Wellness Practice  
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: Rec Aug10

### Customer Services Supervisor

#### Maidstone

**Salary** £18,709 - £21,994 per annum  
MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area: Customer Services Supervisor Salary: £18,709 - £21,994 per annum  
Maidstone An exciting opportunity has arisen for an excellent candidate to supervise, motivate and coordinate the activities of a team, engaged in all Customer Service activities, to enable the Maidstone Campus to meet the College's strategic aims and its day to day responsibility to provide high quality education and training. The successful candidate will have a customer-focused approach towards excellence, be confident and self motivated with the ability to work on own initiative demonstrating confidence in decision making. The candidate must also have the ability to plan, prioritise and monitor their own work and the work of the team. The role will be working closely with the Campus Manager and the Health and Safety Manager to provide a robust service to the College. A recognised customer service and / or management qualification would be desirable along with basic health and safety training with a commitment to gain an IoSH qualification in "Managing

Safely". A track record of managing teams would be advantageous for this exciting role. Closing date: Wednesday 15 September 2010  
MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer.

## Domestic

### Cleaner

#### Sittingbourne

**Salary** TBA  
Part time cleaner needed 20 hours per week, Monday to Friday. This is a temporary position at the moment  
Interested candidates should apply in writing enclosing a recent CV Email: forwardcare@yahoo.co.uk  
Administrative Manager Christine Morgan, Hill Farm, 15 Keycol Hill, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8LZ  
For further information Tel: 01795 841220. Previous Applicants need not apply  
Forward Care (Residential) Ltd Providing Residential Care for Adults with Learning Disabilities.  
**To apply/more information:** Forward Care  
forward@tiscali.co.uk  
Quoting Job Ref:

### Private Domestic Cleaners

#### Sevenoaks

**Salary** Negotiable  
**To apply/more information:** House Fairies (The)  
thehousefairies@tiscali.co.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

## Domestic Trades

### Painters

#### Swanley

**Salary** Negotiable  
Brushes Ltd  
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

### Painters/Decorators

#### Ramsgate

**Salary** TBA  
CIS & CSCS Essential. Immediate Start. Tel: 01279 400580.  
**To apply/more information:** Markwell Park UK Limited  
Karen.bond@btconnect.com  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

## Education, Teacher, School

### HEAD TEACHER

#### Chatham

**Salary** Scale: L1 , L18 (Group 1) Salary Scale: L1, L18  
St. John, Church of England VC

Infant School, 4 New Street, Chatham. ME4 6RH Tel: (01634) 844135  
Following retirement, our friendly, one-form entry school in central Chatham needs a caring, enthusiastic and forward-thinking head-teacher, starting January 2011. With a strong Christian ethos, the school celebrates cultural diversity, working closely with the local community, the local Parish Church and as a feeder school with Balfour Junior School. The new head teacher will value and develop these relationships. With proven management experience at KS1, you will build and manage a team to continue a 148 year tradition of excellent education for pupils of all abilities and backgrounds in a happy and harmonious atmosphere. (Ofsted 2009). Come and visit J&A The Village School in the heart of Medway, Please phone Mrs. L. Day at the school from 1st September to make an appointment. St. John's Infant School is committed to safeguarding young people. The post is subject to an enhanced CRB check. Applications will only be accepted by application form and supporting letter. References will be taken up before interviews, to be held during the week beginning 27th September. For an application pack, please contact: Susan Bowers, HR Services, Schools, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham. Kent ME4 4TR Tel: (01634) 331100 email susan.bowers@medway.gov.uk  
Starting date: 1st January 2011  
Closing date for applications: 1pm Friday 17th September  
**To apply/more information:** St Johns CE Infants School  
office@stjohns.medway.sch.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

### Lecturer in Hairdressing

#### Broadstairs

**Salary** £25,589 - £30,205  
**To apply/more information:** Thanet College  
personnel@thanet.ac.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

### Lecturer in Holistic Therapies

#### Broadstairs

**Salary** £25,589 - £30,205  
**To apply/more information:** Thanet College  
personnel@thanet.ac.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

### Lecturer in Nail Technology/Make-Up

#### Broadstairs

**Salary** £25,589 - £30,205  
We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:  
Lecturer in Nail Technology/Make-Up Salary scale: £25,589 - £30,205 for 37 hours per week all year but would consider job share of 2 posts at 18.5 hours per week  
For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on "Vacancies".  
Alternatively contact the HR office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052 Closing date: Friday 10 September  
2010 Promoting Equality Preventing Discrimination.  
**To apply/more information:** Thanet College  
personnel@thanet.ac.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

### Sales Advisor

#### Broadstairs

**Salary** Basic Salary £15k  
**To apply/more information:** Thanet College  
personnel@thanet.ac.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

## Guidance Worker

### Broadstairs

**Salary** £19,659 - £23,040  
**To apply/more information:** Thanet College  
personnel@thanet.ac.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

### Learning Support Practitioners

#### Broadstairs

**Salary** £7.06 - £7.70 per hour  
**To apply/more information:** Thanet College  
personnel@thanet.ac.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

### Lecturer in Functional Skills

#### Broadstairs

**Salary** £19,297 - £22,863  
**To apply/more information:** Thanet College  
personnel@thanet.ac.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

### Campus Youth Worker

#### Medway

**Salary** £20,674 - £24,792 pro rata  
**To apply/more information:** Mid Kent College  
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: P0001

### Community Assistant

#### Ashford

#### TBA

**To apply/more information:** The North School  
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: kos

### Lecturer in Electrical Installation

#### Medway

**Salary** £28,463 - £32,251  
MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area: Lecturers in Electrical Installation Ref: P0357  
**Salary:** £28,463 - £32,251 per annum (dependent on qualifications and experience)  
Medway We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The successful candidate will contribute to the development, delivery and teaching of Electrical Installation programmes. The ideal candidate must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate must have: an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one. Good IT skills and the ability to work within a team are essential. Closing date: 12noon on Wednesday 15 September 2010. Interviews to be held on Monday 20 September 2010.  
www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance. MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure. Application forms

and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

### Librarian

#### Gravesend

**Salary** KCC Salary Scheme 5 (pts 14-17) £16,793 to £18,471 pa  
LIBRARIAN 37 hours per week (8.00am to 4.00pm) 40 weeks per year (Term Time plus 1 Week)  
KCC Salary Scheme 5 (pts 14-17) £16,793 to £18,471 pa  
Pro rata to £14,492.36 to £15,940.47 pa  
We wish to appoint an enthusiastic member of staff into the new role of Librarian with effect from October 2010 or sooner. We are looking for someone with a passion for reading and enthusiasm for working with young people to take an active part in the setting up and day-to-day running of a new library area in our new school. The successful applicant must: Have good interpersonal and communication skills. Be enthusiastic and confident when working with young people. Have a good level of literacy. Be able to demonstrate a passion for reading and competency with ICT. Work with diligence and accuracy. Be confident to work independently and multi-task. Be willing to undertake training. We are in the current wave of Building Schools for the Future (BSF), and have just moved into a brand new school on our existing site with incredible facilities for indoor and outdoor learning. We have not had library facilities for some years, so are looking for someone to help develop a dedicated area to a brand new library facility with a generous budget. If you think you have the qualities required for this role, you may obtain further details and an application form by telephoning the school 01474 566552 ext. 8081120 or email k.allen@thamesview.kent.sch.uk  
CVs without an application form will not be accepted. Closing date: 7th September 2010  
Interview date: 13th September 2010  
We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students. Appointment to this post will require an Enhanced Disclosure via the Criminal Records Bureau. Thamesview School operates a non-smoking policy THAMESVIEW School with Business & Enterprise Status Thong Lane, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 4LF Tel: 01474 566552 Fax: 01474 537405 email: school@thamesview.kent.sch.uk  
Headteacher: Miss R. Hughes  
B.Ed Hons Website: www.thamesview.kent.sch.uk

### ALL NURSERY NURSES URGENTLY NEEDED

#### Maidstone

**Salary** £7 per hour  
**To apply/more information:** Education Sense  
office@education-sense.com  
Quoting Job Ref: NNUR

### ALL SPECIAL NEEDS TEACHERS

#### Kent

**Salary** Great Rates + Loyalty Scheme  
**To apply/more information:** Education Sense  
office@education-sense.com  
Quoting Job Ref: ASEN

## Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

### Customer Services Supervisor

#### Maidstone

**Salary** £18,709 - £21,994 per annum  
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**Salary** Negotiable  
**To apply/more information:** Baileys Nissan  
t1136@dp@nissan.co.uk  
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#### Sevenoaks

**Salary** £neg  
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jtk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk  
Quoting Job Ref: 1699

### R&D Manager

#### Margate

**Salary** £49-55K + Benefits  
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recruit.europe@tvone.com  
Quoting Job Ref: kos



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# 01303 817040

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Geraldine and David Cox of Little Hermitage, Gravesend Road, Higham ME3 7NU, has applied to Gravesend Borough Council for the VARIATION of Addition of Regulated Entertainment to existing license. Proposed hours 11:00 until 00:00. Live music. Recorded music. Performance of dance. Anything of a similar description for the premises Little Hermitage situated at Gravesend Road, Higham, ME3 7NU.

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at <http://www.gravesend.gov.uk/licensing> or at Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1AU, Tel: 01474 337334 by appointment with the Licensing Team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

Any person wishing to submit representations to my/our application must be given notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 22/09/2010.

The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm. In the case of an application for a provisional statement, please note that representations will be restricted once a statement has been issued.

## To advertise in this section



# 01303 817040

## Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

- 10/02773/LBC** **Judds Farm Hayesden Lane, Bidborough-**  
Listed Building Consent: Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of replacement single storey rear garden room (LB)
- 10/02604/FULMJ** **The Kent National Golf & Country Club Watermans Lane, Brenchley-**  
Reversion to former agricultural use of part of now defunct Moatlands Golf Course with sheep and horse grazing and equestrian facilities (MAJOR)
- 10/02512/HOUSE** **71A London Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden-**  
Replace garage door with windows, with continuation of weatherboarding to match existing on west elevation (work started) (CA)
- 10/02597/FUL** **Flat 2 Barons Court, Culverden-**  
Single-storey rear extension (CA)
- 10/02565/FUL** **Hill House The Street, Frittenden- Extension of time-**  
erection of a 2-storey detached house and garage (Planning permission TW/07/00114 refers) (CA)
- 10/02709/HOUSE** **Magnolia Cottage Church Road, Goudhurst-**  
Changes to window fenestration to rear elevation and open fronted porch over front entrance (CA)
- 10/02718/FUL** **Leonards Highgate Hill, Hawkhurst-**  
Change of use from A2 (Office) to C3 (Residential) to provide one 3 bedroom detached dwelling (LB) (CA)
- 10/02699/FUL** **Creggans And The Old Garden 2 Dunorlan Park, Park-**  
Demolition of Creggans and The Old Gardens, and erection of two residential dwellings with associated parking, access and landscaping (CA)
- 10/02640/FUL** **The Black & White Shop The Green, Speldhurst-**  
Demolition of corrugated asbestos store/workshop building and construction of replacement building in same location (CA)
- 10/02644/CAC** **The Black & White Shop The Green, Speldhurst-**  
Conservation Area Consent - Demolition of corrugated asbestos store/workshop building (CA)
- (DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA)  
Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website ([www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk](http://www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk)), at The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to [planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk](mailto:planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk) or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe  
Head of Planning Services  
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 04 September 2010



## HIGHWAYS – District of Ashford

**B2067 ROMAN ROAD, ALDINGTON - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is given that because of carriageway strengthening and resurfacing due to potholes and areas of surface erosion, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on B2067 Roman Road, Aldington, on or after 6 September 2010 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Knoll Hill to adjacent to the property named 'Upper Park Farm'.

The alternative route is via Roman Road, Aldington Road, Otterpool Lane, Ashford Road, Barrow Hill, Main Road, Station Road, Goldwell Lane, Calleywell Lane, and Roman Road.

There will be an additional diversion on the first morning of the works whilst work is carried out at the junction between Knoll Hill and Roman Road. This is from Calleywell Lane via Forge Hill, New Road Hill, Boat Lane and Knoll Hill.

**VARIOUS ROADS, ASHFORD - (RESTRICTIONS ON TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is given that for public safety during the construction of the Victoria Way Relief Road, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order in respect of George Street, Victoria Crescent and Victoria Road, Ashford on or after 20 September 2010 for up to 12 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The effect is to impose a temporary One-way Traffic Order in respect of George Street, Victoria Crescent and Victoria Road.

The traffic flow will be in a clockwise direction, as described above.

## HIGHWAYS – District of Canterbury

**ST GEORGE'S SUBWAY, CANTERBURY - (RESTRICTIONS ON PEDESTRIANS) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is given that because of removal of graffiti and subway maintenance works, the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting pedestrians on St George's Subway, Canterbury, on or after 6 September 2010 for up to 4 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The closure will be in rolling phases, and only one section will be closed at any one time, as signposted on site. Pedestrians should use alternative sections of the subway or the surface crossing on St Georges Street.

**HIGH STREET, STURRY - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on High Street, Sturry on or after 6 September 2010 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the northern junction with A28 Mill Road.

The alternative route is via the other junction with Mill Road. The One-way Traffic Order in respect of High Street will be suspended to allow traffic to enter and exit High Street from the southern junction with Mill Road.

**B2205 SEA STREET, HERNE BAY - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on B2205 Sea Street, Herne Bay, on or after 6 September 2010 for up to 2 nights or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with York Road and Lane End.

The alternative routes are:

**Northbound** via Fleetwood Avenue, The Circus and Station Road.

**Westbound** via The Broadway and Central Avenue.

**VARIOUS ROADS, WINCHEAP, CANTERBURY - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Wincheap on or after 6 September 2010 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected, dates of closure and alternative routes are as shown below:

**Cotton Road, Wincheap** will be closed between Cow Lane and Jackson Road

From 8 September 2010 for up to 1 night

Alternative route via Cow Lane, Maynard Road and Jackson Road

**Cushman Road, Wincheap** will be closed between Maynard Road and Simmonds Road

From 9 September 2010 for up to 1 night

Alternative route via Maynard Road, Cow Lane and Simmonds Road

**Jackson Road, Wincheap** will be closed between Cotton Road and Maynard Road

From 10 September 2010 for up to 1 night

Alternative route via Cotton Road, Cow Lane and Maynard Road

**Maynard Road, Wincheap** will be closed between Cow Lane and Jackson Road

From 13 September 2010 for up to 1 night

Alternative route via Cow Lane, Cotton Road and Jackson Road

**Simmonds Road, Wincheap** will be closed between Cow Lane and Wincheap

From 14 September 2010 for up to 4 nights

Alternative route via Wincheap and Cow Lane

**HIGH STREET & AVENUE ROAD, HERNE BAY - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is given that because of carriageway resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on High Street & Avenue Road, Herne Bay on or after 28 September 2010 for up to 9 nights or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Lane End and Canterbury Road.

The alternative route is via Lane End, Central Parade and Canterbury Road.

The various side roads leading from High Street and Avenue Road will be closed at their junctions with High Street and Avenue Road as the works progress. These will be sign posted on site, with local diversions set up.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of: Station Road, Beach Street, William Street, Bank Street and East Street will be suspended to allow traffic to access and exit as necessary.

## HIGHWAYS – District of Dover

**CATTLE MARKET & NO NAME STREET, SANDWICH - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Cattle Market & No Name Street, Sandwich on or after 6 September 2010 for up to 7 weeks or until the works have been completed.

Cattle Market will be closed from and including the junction with No Name Street to the junction of Cattle Market outside The Guildhall. No Name Street will be closed at the junction with Cattle Market.

The alternative route for through traffic is via New Street, St Bart's Road, Woodnesborough Road and Cattle Market.

**EAST CLIFF, DOVER - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is given that because of installation of a new gas supply, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on East Cliff, Dover, on or after 20 September 2010 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside no.27. There will be no access for through traffic.

There is no alternative route. There will be a suspension of the One-way Traffic Order in respect of East Cliff to allow access either side of the closure.

## HIGHWAYS – District of Shepway

**A260 SPITFIRE WAY, HAWKINGE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is given that because of the resurfacing of A260 Canterbury Road and White Horse Hill roundabout, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting traffic on A260 Spitfire Way, Hawkinge from 20 September 2010 for 2 nights or until the works have been completed.

Spitfire Way will be closed between the junctions with A260 Canterbury Road and Haven Drive/Swann Way. The slip roads linking the White Horse Hill roundabout to and from the coast bound carriageway of the A20 will also be closed under a separate Highways Agency Traffic Order.

The alternative routes are as follows.

*To reach the A20* - via M20 Junction 13, A259 Churchill Avenue and A260 Canterbury Road

*For Spitfire Way* via White Horse Hill and Canterbury Road.

## HIGHWAYS – District of Swale

**HIGH STREET, SITTINGBOURNE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is given that because of repairs to inspection chambers, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on High Street, Sittingbourne, on or after 6 September 2010 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed to through traffic between the junctions with Park Road and Bell Road.

The alternative route is via Park Road, Avenue of Remembrance and Bell Road.

## HIGHWAYS – District of Thanet

**QUEENS ROAD, BROADSTAIRS - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is given that because of the removal of a tower crane from a building site, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on Queens Road, Broadstairs on or after Sunday 12 September 2010 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between High Street and Pierremont Avenue.

The alternative route is via High Street, Osbourne Road, Seafield Road, Gladstone Road and Ramsgate Road.

Note that if it is not possible to carry out these works on 12 September due to adverse weather conditions, it will be necessary to defer the works to one of the following 2 Sundays, i.e. 19 September or 26 September 2010.

Note the revised date on this Notice supersedes that previously published.

**HALL BY THE SEA ROAD, MARGATE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is given that because of gas mains replacement, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Hall By The Sea Road, Margate, on or after 27 September 2010 for up to 4 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the rear of No 16 Marine Terrace.

The alternative route is via Marine Terrace.

For further information, please contact  
**Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800**  
(local rate) or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways)





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## Spaced out and maxed out all-new C-Max lands

By **STEVE LOADER**

SPACE exploration didn't seem to matter to Ford when it launched the original C-Max MPV in 2003.

Despite the success of the established seven-seat Vauxhall Zafira, Ford claimed rather sniffily that its own research showed there was no call for capacious seven-seaters in that sector.

Well, the Zafira continues to put more bums on seats that anything else in that arena and VW also conceded the point by dropping a five-seat option and standardising on seven seats for its rival Touran.

Toyota went even further: it scrapped its Verso five-seater and recreated it in seven-seat form – but you can do that sort of thing when you are the world's biggest carmaker.

Ford's intransigence at the time gives a clue as to why it and other American carmakers have had such a tough time of late.

But the lesson was learned, and the new C-Max arriving in November will be sold in two forms: a five-seat direct replacement for the current car that looks as stylish as it will (surely) be good to drive, and a seven-seater with sliding rear doors for greater versatility.

FORD has also announced a heavily revised version of its Mondeo (from £17,295) for the 2011 model year, due on sale this month.

The popular family/company car is re-styled inside and out, but also gets a more powerful high-efficiency Ford EcoBoost petrol option and new TDCi diesel powertrains and a host of new driver comfort and convenience features and safety technologies.

The new turbocharged petrol engine delivers an impressive 237bhp from its two-litre capacity, joining the existing 200bhp EcoBoost in the range.



Like the rival Mazda5, the latter will also have a fold away middle seat in row two, allowing 'walk thru' access to the rearmost chairs, but buyers are penalised on style for the extra passenger space and access – it's no looker.

Nevertheless, both C-Max sisters will have family-friendly features on offer such as semi-automatic parallel parking, blind spot detection, seat belt warning lights for

rear seat passengers, power-activated child locks and a powered tailgate.

They will also be the first Ford models to deploy new high-efficiency, low-CO2 EcoBoost turbocharged petrol engines, following a trend set by the VW and Fiat stables; petrol remains easier to produce and the engines are cheaper and lighter than diesels.

And we can expect both C-Max models to

handle well above the norm for the MPV sector; in the same way that the Mark I C-Max was based upon the then forthcoming Focus hatchback, its replacement foreshadows the next Focus due early in 2011, and I don't expect Ford to be guilty of any backsliding on driving enjoyment.



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# FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader



## Rally-bred Citroën targeting Cooper S

NOT content with attacking BMW's Mini on a wide front with its own DS3 premium hatchback, Citroën has opened order books for a version targeting the Mini's performance flagship.

For the DS3 Racing (from £23,100) is an obvious challenger to the Mini Cooper S and comes with Citroën's recent rallying pedigree, courtesy of many titles won by star driver Sébastien Loeb and co-driver Daniel Elena – offering the sort of sales boost that rally success gave the

original 1960s Mini.

The new DS3 Racing uses a specially tuned 1.6-litre engine producing 207bhp – some 25 per cent more than currently available to the line-up – and delivering a 0-62mph time of just 6.5 seconds.

It is also designed to stand apart from existing DS3 models, through distinctive colour schemes and motorsport inspired features, including carbon fibre components such as the rear diffuser, front bumper, side rubbing strips and wheel arch extensions.

## Chunky Chevy MPV makes debut

CHEVROLET will make its debut in the European MPV sector with the new Orlando unveiled at the Paris motor show later this month.

And the newcomer looks set for sales stardom straight away with the US brand's usual value pricing, seven seats and the new Chevy Five-Year Promise – five-years' free servicing, roadside assistance, free annual vehicle health checks and free MoT test cover.

The US brand also claims it has echoes of SUV or crossover styling rather than bland MPV lines, thanks to its low roofline and chunkier styling with big wheel arches, housing large wheels.

Interior styling is also rather more dramatic than the usual MPV fare; Chevy claims to have added echoes of its Corvette sports car icon, yet a generous load area and three rows of seats rising steadily towards the back of the car – giving smaller occupants a better view out – suggest great people carrier appeal too.

One petrol and two diesel engines will be offered.



## Juke looks set to be an export star



NISSAN'S all-new compact sports crossover, the Juke, arrives this month and is set to be the next most successful model produced at the marque's Sunderland UK plant after the bigger Qashqai.

Most Jukes will be exported to mainland Europe, but dealers here are keen to get their supplies of the car being

offered with three trim grades and three engines, including a 187bhp turbocharged option.

Like the Qashqai, the Juke will also be available in two-wheel drive versions as well as the range-topping all-wheel drive model, being imported from Japan.

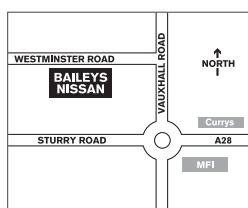
Prices for the Juke start at £12,795.

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\*Actual model shown is 1.6L Acenta with optional Sport pack priced at £14,095. Model shown has optional metallic paint worth £400 including VAT. Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd, The Rivers Office Park, Denham Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 9YS.

Pre-production fuel consumption figures for Juke range are: URBAN 44.8-27.7mpg/6.3-10.2L/100km – EXTRA URBAN 64.1-47.0mpg/4.4-6.0L/100km – COMBINED 55.3-37.2mpg/5.1-7.6L/100km. CO2 emissions are: 134-175g/km. Information correct at time of print. Official figures available at www.nissan.co.uk from August 2010.



by  
**STEVELOADER**

# Japanese duo jamming on a mini-MPV theme

TWO Japanese motor giants go head-to-head at the Paris Motor Show later this month – in one of the smallest market sectors.

World number one Toyota will use the show to unveil its all-new baby MPV, the Verso-S, due here early next year.

And it's not hard to work out which model it has in its sights – Honda's amazingly space-efficient Jazz, which also makes a Paris debut in its new petrol-electric hybrid form.

Toyota will counter this though by using the show to celebrate 10 years of its own full hybrid technology.

But the Verso-S will grab the limelight with the shortest overall length of any B-segment MPV in Europe – less than four metres. Toyota also says it has paid great attention to maximising cabin flexibility, comfort and quality.

It needs to though against the long-running superiority of the Jazz in the mini-MPV field, particularly for UK buyers following Honda's decision to produce the Mark II version at its Swindon plant, thereby keeping prices realistic.

Honda will also up the ante with the new hybrid version, using a 1.3-litre i-VTEC, CVT (continuously variable transmission) gearbox for best economy, plus electric motor – a system already seen in Honda's Insight and Civic Hybrid.

The newcomer is more crucial to Honda ambitions at the smaller end of the market since the marque has chosen not to develop small capacity diesel engines – unlike Toyota.

Its green credentials are likely to cost a premium though and Honda will play to this by bestowing a premium image with styling variations inside and out and – a first for the Jazz in European markets – leather seats.

Toyota's anniversary hybrid show will be for-



**RIVALS:** Toyota's new Verso-S mini-MPV will face Honda's hybrid Jazz (right) at the Paris show

midable in Paris though, showing the newly launched British-built Auris HSD Hybrid Synergy Drive – a modular system that can be easily adapted to other Toyota models – and the Prius Plug-in Hybrid, 20 of which are cur-

rently running in London on leased trials.

For those who simply want to downsize their car choice to save money and emissions, Toyota will also show upgrades for its tiny iQ baby car and three/five-door Aygo city car.



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Financed by GMAC UK plc, PO Box 6666, Cardiff CF15 7YT. Offer is subject to status, availability and terms and conditions. Applicants must be aged 18 or over. Offers are available for registrations and orders placed between 09/07/10 and 30/09/10 and are subject to availability. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks and may not be used in conjunction with any other offer, UK supplied vehicles only. Vehicles shown are Spark 1.0 at £7195 with metallic paint at an extra cost of £365. Available at participating Retailers only. Not in conjunction with any other offer. 5 year offer available on all retail registrations from 9th July 2010 to 5th October 2010 apart from all Matiz models. Certain Retail stock does not qualify. 5 year warranty up to 100,000 miles, expires whichever occurs first. This offer includes Chevrolet's standard Customer Care Commitment for a 2 year unlimited mileage manufacturer's warranty, and third year manufacturer's warranty with a 60,000 miles limitation. The warranty excludes wear and tear and serviceable items and the vehicle has to be serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's servicing schedule. 5 years/50,000 miles servicing package, expires whichever occurs first. Beyond 50,000 miles the vehicle must be serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's servicing schedule to continue the 5 year warranty. MOT Test Warranty cover does not include the cost of the MOT test fee. MOT Test Warranty covers the MOTs carried out at year 3, 4 and 5 and has a limit of 100,000 miles. The MOT Test Warranty excludes accident damage, tyres, glass and bodywork and has a claim limit of £750 per MOT. Annual vehicle health checks have no mileage limitations. Roadside Assistance has no mileage limit but does not cover certain self-induced incidents. Terms and conditions apply please visit [www.5yearpromise.co.uk](http://www.5yearpromise.co.uk) or contact your nearest Retailer for details. Prices correct at time of press. 43762

Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Spark 1.0 5dr: Urban 42.8 (6.6), Extra Urban 67.3 (4.2), Combined 55.4 (5.1), CO2 Emissions 119 g/km.



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Finance Example\* 07 07 Ford Focus 1.6 LX 5dr 640 Credit Facility Fee is included. \*A £298 Completion Fee is included in the Final Payment.

Cash Price	<b>£7,000</b>	Deposit	<b>£2,400</b>	Final payment	<b>£2,577.67</b>	Total amount payable	<b>£8,588.51</b>	Total charge for credit	<b>£1,249.51</b>	Mileage per annum	<b>6,000</b>	Excess mileage charge per mile	<b>14.8p</b>	<b>15.18% APR</b>	36 monthly payments	<b>£99.19</b>
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£229.16	£15,550.00	£230.00	£15,320.00	£1,000.00	£1,999.00	£5,954.25	£12,551.00	6,000	14.9p	£17,203.01	

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Mazda3 range (excluding Mazda3 MPS): Urban 26.7 (10.6) - 48.7 (5.8), Extra Urban 48.7 (5.8) - 74.3 (3.8), Combined 37.2 (7.6) - 62.8 (4.5). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km) 175 - 119.

Retail sales only. Subject to availability at participating dealers only on vehicles registered between 1 July 2010 and 30 September 2010. \*At participating dealers only. †5.9% finance available on all vehicles. ††Mazda Deposit Contribution. Conditions apply. See dealer for details. ‡Guaranteed Future Value (GFV) is the amount payable at the end of the contract. The amount payable at the end of the contract is subject to the condition of the vehicle. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantees/indemnities may be required. Mazda Financial Service RHI SR. Model shown: Mazda3 1.6 5dr Takuya. OTR price £15,550.00. On the road price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, 1st registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European Roadside Assistance. Details correct at time of going to print. \*Test drives subject to applicant status and availability.



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Car shown Hyundai i30 Comfort 1.4 from £11,295 including £2,305 customer saving.

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Prices shown include customer saving discounts where applicable against manufacturer's recommended OTR price at the time of publication and include VAT, delivery, vehicle first registration fee, number plates and 12 months' road fund licence subject to purchase and registration taking place between 1 August 2010 and 30 September 2010, inclusive. All vehicles are subject to availability at participating Hyundai dealers. \*Warranty and 5 Year Triple Care terms and conditions apply - see [www.hyundai.co.uk/owners/5YearWarranty/](http://www.hyundai.co.uk/owners/5YearWarranty/), [www.hyundai.co.uk/owners/Triples/](http://www.hyundai.co.uk/owners/Triples/) or ask your local dealer. Fuel consumption in MPG(l/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 18.7 (15.1) - 60.1 (4.7), Extra Urban 38.2 (7.4) - 74.3 (3.8), Combined 27.7 (10.2) - 67.3 (4.2), CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 245 - 110 g/km.



**DrivingReview**

by  
**STEVE LOADER**

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT  
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

**Saab 9-5**

**ONLY** Saab – famous for original thinking – could have fabricated a saga involving the brand's near death experience earlier this year.

You may recall that Saab's erstwhile masters at General Motors were about to end a troubled 21-year marriage by simply closing the Swedish marque after abortive attempts to find a buyer.

Then, at the 11th hour, Spyker of Holland launched a rescue using a 400 million euro loan from the EU 'state' lender, the European Investment Bank.

It's a curious new union though and thoroughly in keeping with the idiosyncratic Swedish firm; Saab is more lower volume executive brand than mass producer, but its new partner operates within even tighter parameters as a hand-crafted supercar maker founded in 1999, and using a luxury car branding that died out in 1929.

Not surprisingly, there is as much scepticism about the viability of Saab-Spyker as there is goodwill for Saab to succeed after

# Saab is re-Bjorn



evident frustrations under GM ownership.

The car brand arose originally from Saab aerospace, starting a line of distinctive, innovative and aerodynamic cars in 1949, and promoting front-wheel drive.

It then championed turbocharging, having decided that boosting its four-cylinder engines was a far cheaper route to higher outputs than developing a new six-pot unit to take on German rivals.

And Saab enjoyed a staunch and intellectual following – once reported to be 10 times more passionate about their cars than VW drivers – but these aficionados were never

numerous enough to keep Saab from being bought up by a giant like GM.

Many books are waiting to be written on why this partnership never gelled, but GM's desire for economy of scale via the corporate part bins was always going to undermine Saab's relationship with its fans.

Ironically, even the first new car under the Saab-Spyker umbrella owes much to GM; there is a lot of Vauxhall Insignia beneath the distinctive yet very long-awaited Saab 9-5 replacement – the previous car can trace its origins to 1997.

But the Insignia is not a bad car, while Saab

claims as much as 70 per cent of the new 9-5 is all its own work and the distinctive bodywork is certainly in the great Saab tradition – so, in Abba-speak, you could say the brand is re-Bjorn.

It is priced from £26,695 with a generous standard spec and hi-tech features on offer including aircraft-style head-up information display on the front screen, adaptive lighting and cruise control, adaptive chassis, keyless entry and starting, dual-zone air con; dynamic parking assistance and all-wheel drive.

The engine line-up is all turbocharged – what did you expect from the turbo master? – and includes a 1.6-litre petrol unit that concedes little in performance to the slightly dearer entry diesel model, though fuel consumption is markedly inferior.

And the 160PS (157bhp) 2.0-litre TiD Vector SE diesel we tested does hit the spot; it's a heavy car and, rather like standard versions of the Insignia, not as nimble as you come to expect from BMW and Audi rivals.

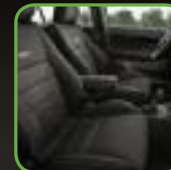
Then again, the ride comfort and long-distance cruising ability is impressive with loads of space for those in the back and a massive boot.

The cabin is impressive – it's not gaudy or particularly innovative, but just carefully laid out in the Saab way; aficionados like to think that Saab dashboards can trace their lineage back to the old aviation parent company.

The powertrain and six-speed auto gearbox matches this refinement and the front-end styling won't let you down in the company car park.

However, I think the designer's hand strayed a little towards the rear of the car, but this opinion started a lively debate whenever I raised it with colleagues, so it's one of those beauty in the eye of the beholder motors.

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Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Škoda Range: Urban 19.2 (14.7) – 8.9 (4.1), Extra-urban 31.2 (7.8) – 94.2 (3.0), Combined 27.7 (10.2) – 83.1 (3.4). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the Škoda Range 89 – 237g/km.

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## DrivingPortfolio

**SAAB 9-5 SALOON 2.0 TID VECTOR SE AUTO £28,035**

Driving appeal (OUT OF FIVE)	★★★★
Image	★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★
Running costs	★★★
Reliability	★★★★
How green?	★★
Road tax	£300/year
Best rival	BMW 5-Series

## The Verdict



### DON'T LIKE:

all of the styling, but there is no denying that the big Saab has presence



### NOT SURE:

it will give the established German opposition much to worry about



### REALLY LIKE:

the value on offer and that the 9-5 represents hope for a famous and distinctive brand

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Model shown Yaris TR 1.0 VVT-i 3dr manual £11,370. Metallic paint £410 extra. \*Price for finance customers is calculated by deducting a £1,040 customer saving, £335 Centre contribution and £500 finance contribution from the manufacturer's list price. \*\*5.9% APR and £500 finance deposit allowance available on new retail sales of Yaris TR 1.0 VVT-i 3dr manual when ordered between 1 August and 30 September 2010 and registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services between 1 August and 15 December 2010. Terms and conditions apply. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s only. Toyota Financial Services, Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 5UZ. Price correct at time of going to press & includes VAT, delivery charge, number plates, 1 years road fund licence and £55 first registration fee. Subject to availability. The 5 year warranty is a 5 year/100,000 mile manufacturer warranty. To maintain the warranty, customers must service their vehicle in accordance with the standard Toyota service schedule for the full 5 year period. For more information on the terms and conditions please contact Toyota (GB) plc on 0844 701 6180. ^2 years free servicing entitles the customer to their first two services free of charge at an Official Toyota Centre. The services will follow the standard Toyota service schedule and should be conducted at the normal intervals (10,000 miles or 12 months). Service offer only available to retail customers purchasing a new AVGO, Yaris, iQ and Auris on a two or three year PCP financed by Toyota Financial Services when ordered between 16 August & 30 September 2010 and registered before 30 September 2010. Not to be used in conjunction with other offers. Yaris TR 1.0 VVT-i Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km), Urban 45.6 (6.2), Extra Urban 61.4 (4.6), Combined 55.4 (5.1). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 118g/km.



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**147**, JTD Turismo, 2003, metallic black, 71000 miles, £3999, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**147**, JTD Turismo, 2003, metallic black, 71000 miles, £3999, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**147**, JTD Turismo, 2003, metallic black, 71000 miles, £3999, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**159**, MPI Turismo, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player traction control remote central locking isofix child seat points, black, 36301 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**159**, MPI Turismo, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player traction control remote central locking isofix child seat points, black, 36301 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**159**, MPI Turismo, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player traction control remote central locking isofix child seat points, black, 36301 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**159**, 2.4 JTDm LUSO, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, grey, 64642 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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**CONTINENTAL**, 2441077, air conditioning, colour satnav, dual climate zones, full leather, memory seats, powered folding mirrors, xenon headlamps, remote alarm, remote central locking, centre armrest, electric seats, heated seats, rear headrests, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, parking sensor, power steering, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, auto lighting, colour coded body, front fog lamps, headlamp jetwash, electric mirrors, electric windows, electric sunroof, multi-disc cd player, steering wheel audio controls, alloy wheels, 4x4, magnolia leather trim, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! full fsa regulated, st james red, 6000 miles, £59995, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

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**1 SERIES**, 116i 5dr, 35929163, abs, air bag, side air bags, immobiliser, alarm, traction control, central locking, remote central locking, electric front windows, trip computer, rear wash/wipe, stability control, adjustable steering column, automatic electric windows, child locks, head restraints, isofix, air conditioning, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, electric windows, cd player, radio, stereo, 16" alloys, pas, height adjustable front seatbelts, service interval indicator, body colour door handles, body colour bumpers, three 3 point rear seatbelts, pyrotechnically pre-tensioned front seatbelts, oil level indicator, load restraint lashing eyes, seat belt force limiter, 'lights on' warning buzzer, cbc (cornering brake control), 60/40 split rear seats, storage compartments in front/rear door panels, windscreen wiper jets, grey, 30891 miles, £10000, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

**1 SERIES**, 116i SE 5dr, k5r/gdv, climate control, air conditioning, multi-function steering wheel, cd player, alarm, centre armrest, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote alarm, remote central locking, head restraints, height adjustable seat, rear headrests, power steering, stability control, traction control, trip computer, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, radio, stereo, at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in one place. visit our website for even more details. we are open 7 days a week and easily located off the m25, m26 and a20. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, aluminium silver, 40062 miles, £9994, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

**1 SERIES**, 120d Sport 5dr, mt05wb, climate control, air conditioning, cd player, sports seats, alarm, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote alarm, remote central locking, head restraints, height adjustable seat, rear headrests, power steering, stability control, traction control, trip computer, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, radio cassette, stereo, adjustable steering column, m sport bodykit, m sport alloys, at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in one place. visit our website for even more details. we are open 7 days a week and easily located off the m25, m26 and a20. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, blue, 68000 miles, £8994, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

**1 SERIES**, 118i ES 3dr, la07wvs, air conditioning, alarm, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote alarm, remote central locking, head restraints, height adjustable seat, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, traction control, trip computer, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, cd player, radio, stereo, centre armrest, front fog lamps, at Big Motoring World we average over 350 bmw's in one place. visit our website for even more details. we are open 7 days a week and easily located off the m25, m26 and a20. big enough to cope, small enough to care. out of hours contact 07956 158119, montego blue, 28156 miles, £10980, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

**1 SERIES**, 120d SE Steptronic Auto, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player power fold mirrors power steering trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black, 36000 miles, £13500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**1 SERIES**, 116i SE, 2006, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering sports seats traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix remote audio controls, blue metallic, 59000 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**1 SERIES**, 118D M Sport, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering sports seats traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black metallic, 55000 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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**1 SERIES**, 116i SPORT, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, blue, 24123 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**1 SERIES**, 116i SE, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height aid drivers seat, titanium silver, 28316 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**1 SERIES**, 116i SPORT, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, blue, 24123 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES**, 320D ES TOURING, 2004, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors power steering single cd player split folding rear seats tinted glass tonneau cover traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking adjustable steering column space saver spare wheel, silver, 65203 miles, £7500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES**, 320d SE Auto, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows multiple airbags power steering, black, 10567 miles, £19000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**CHEVROLET**

**TACUMA**, SE, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats twin airbags remote central locking, red, 19000 miles, £2950, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**TACUMA**, CDX, 2007, air conditioning automatic transmission cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows power steering, grey, 24266 miles, £5500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**TACUMA**, CDX, 2007, air conditioning automatic transmission cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows power steering, grey, 24266 miles, £5500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**TACUMA**, SE, 2004, abs brakes air con alarm fitted cd central locking remote central locking electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd split folding rear seats twin airbags remote central locking, red, 19000 miles, £2950, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**TACUMA**, CDX, 2007, air conditioning automatic transmission cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows power steering, grey, 24266 miles, £5500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**TACUMA**, SE, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats twin airbags remote central locking, red, 19000 miles, £2950, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**CHRYSLER**

**PT CRUISER**, passenger airbag power steering radio/cd rear electric windows side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment traction control 2 owner, midnight blue, 52000 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

**CHRYSLER**

**SEBRING**, 2.0 CRD Limited 4dr, curtain airbags, child locks, locking wheel nuts, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, traction control, air conditioning, cruise control, full leather, heated seats, electric seats, electric front windows, cd player, electric mirrors, remote alarm, remote central locking, colour coded interior, height adjustable seat, isofix, adjustable steering column, power steering, automatic electric windows, rear armrest, rear headrests, metallic paintwork, brilliant black, 34499 miles, £8300, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

**VOYAGER**, LTD AUTO, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player electric windows front fog lights half leather trim heated seats immobiliser power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 73000 miles, £6500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**VOYAGER**, LTD AUTO, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking cruise control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights half leather trim heated seats immobiliser power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 73000 miles, £6500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**VOYAGER**, LTD AUTO, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking cruise control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights half leather trim heated seats immobiliser power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 73000 miles, £6500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**CITROEN**

**C-CROSSER**, 5, gy08 vtf, 2 registered keepers central locking remote central locking front electric windows electric windows electric mirrors abs traction control air conditioning power steering drivers airbag passenger airbag side airbags cruise control alarm immobiliser full leather interior alloy wheels, grey, 11600 miles, £16995, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

**C1**, Rhythm, 2007, abs brakes cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seats points remote audio controls, grey metallic, 8000 miles, £4994, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**C1**, Splash, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning central locking drivers airbag electric windows power steering remote central locking, 10, 10 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**C1**, Vibe, 2006, abs brakes central locking drivers airbag electric windows power steering single cd player, grey, 31592 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**C1**, Vibe, 2008, abs brakes central locking drivers airbag immobiliser power steering single cd player, red, 22000 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**C1**, 1.4, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, red, 55 miles, £11000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**C1**, 1.4, 2008, red, 55 miles, £11000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**C1**, 1.4, 2008, red, 55 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**C1**, 1.4, 2008, grey, 6978 miles, £11200, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**FIAT**

**500**, 1.3 Mjet Lounge, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player multiple airbags power steering trip computer panoramic sunroof front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points multi functional tuneport (i-pod and mp3 connection) remote audio controls, grey, 4000 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**500**, 1.4 LOUNGE, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover remote central locking remote audio controls, grey, 35101 miles, £8500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**500**, 1.2, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, red, 55 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**500**, 1.2, 2008, black, 55 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**500**, 1.2, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, red, 55 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**500**, 1.2, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**500**, 1.4 SPORT, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloys cd player central locking electric windows full service history half leather trim immobiliser twin airbags lumbar support rear headrests height aid drivers seat space saver spare wheel, bossanova white, 15611 miles, £3500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.4 Titanium, 2009, hot magenta, 4000 miles, £11995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.25 Zetec, 2009, moon dust silver, 8253 miles, £9995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, Zetec Blue 1.4 TDci, 2008, panther black with charcoal trim, 45000 miles, £5490, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, Style 1.4TDci, 2008, panther black with charcoal trim, 45000 miles, £5490, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, Style 1.4TDci, 2008, panther black with charcoal trim, 45000 miles, £5490, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, Style 1.4TDci, 2008, tango red metallic with charcoal trim, 25000 miles, £5490, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, Ghia auto, 2008, abs brakes air con alloys cd drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering single tinted glass trip computer twin airbags drivers seat, panther black, 24501 miles, £7500, Maidstone, 08448 759296 (TRADE)

**FOCUS** C-Max, 2006, abs brakes air con alloys cd central locking electric windows immobiliser airbags power steering, black, 34256 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**FOCUS** C-Max, 2007, abs air con alloys cd electric windows metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tinted glass curtain airbags remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, verdigris, 18375 miles, £8580, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

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## BUSINESS



## WEEK



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## INSIDE THIS WEEK

IT'S an extra value Big Interview this week with Jon Rimmer, who is able to give us an insight – an upbeat one, too – into several business sectors following his recent appointment as chairman of Ashford-based auctions and property group Hobbs Parker.



Proof of his optimism is the fact that the firm is also opening a new branch in Tenterden, while our report of the group's interests in the rural economy are also complemented this week by the Spotlight page from the agribusiness sector.

STEVE LOADER BUSINESS EDITOR

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## KEY PARTNERS



## SUPPORTED BY



# It's getting better, claim cautious chamber chiefs

By STEVE LOADER

steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

CHAMBER of Commerce chiefs are optimistic about the UK's economic growth with a 1.7 per cent increase forecast for this year and 2.2 per cent for 2011.

This tops the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) Economic Forecast in June – 1.3 and 2.0 per cent respectively – though it is concerned about the longer term.

But the cautiously upbeat stance was welcomed by the county's biggest chamber, Kent Invicta – covering Ashford, Canterbury, Maidstone, and Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Malling, and Tunbridge Wells.

Chief executive Jo James said: "BCC have had their finger on the pulse of the situation right from the start, having been the first authority to accurately predict the severity of the downturn, and their forecasts carry a lot of weight. Any recovery is being, and will continue to be, largely driven by UK business – as is abundantly obvious from the economic performance in Kent.

"For the BCC to acknowledge that a recovery,

no matter now slight, is taking place will give UK companies the important confidence to continue their efforts."

The BCC insists, though, the new Government's tough deficit-busting must be coupled with a balanced growth strategy.

And unemployment continues to worry, with the BCC forecasting a rise over the next 18 months from 2.46 million to a peak of 2.65 million – 8.3 per cent of the workforce – in the first half of 2012.

On the up side, rising tax receipts are driving the deficit down faster than planned, bringing BCC predictions that public sector net borrowing (PSNB) will fall to £144bn/9.7 per cent of GDP in 2010-11; £110bn in 2011-12; and £83bn/5.1 per cent of GDP in 2012-13.

BCC director general David Frost said: "Business accepts that reducing the deficit, with a clear focus on spending cuts, is vital in order to

restore confidence, international credibility and stability. However, deficit reduction on its own will not deliver a sustainable recovery.

"We need policies that rebalance the economy towards wealth-creating businesses, and enable the private sector to invest, export and create new jobs."

BCC chief economist David Kern said: "We expect a sharp slowdown in the pace of growth to start in the first quarter of 2011, as VAT increases to 20 per cent and tough spending cuts are implemented."

He added that cutting debt and strengthening the banking sector would limit GDP growth to an average of just under two per cent a year, contrasting with three per cent from 1993-2007.

But he voiced concerns on the jobs front. "Unless the labour market remains flexible during the recovery, and private sector employers are encouraged to expand, there is a risk that falling productivity would damage Britain's medium-term growth prospects," he said.

"Inactivity must decline, full-time employment needs to grow, and private sector employment must increase."

## Soggy end to Branson's birthday board meeting

BILLIONAIRE entrepreneur Sir Richard Branson suffered a rare dip in fortunes after two attempts to kitesurf across the Channel.

Rough weather forced the Virgin boss to turn back to Dungeness after five miles on the first day; too much calm produced the same result next day after just a few yards' progress.

But, true to form, he had secured headlines anyway including a memorable 'Wring out the Branson' from The Star – and has vowed another attempt on the 24-mile journey soon, in celebration of his 60th birthday and to make him the oldest person to cross the Channel by kiteboard.

The swashbuckling businessman, best known for founding Virgin Records and the Virgin Atlantic airline, has a history of high-profile stunts including powerboating and ballooning.

See yourkenttv.co.uk for footage of the Branson bids.

WAVES OF ENTHUSIASM: Sir Richard Branson at Dungeness



Picture: CHRIS EADES

## Dame Vera's note of support for People's Port

DAME Vera Lynn entered the battle for the future of the Port of Dover this week by backing plans for a 'People's Port'.

Dover Harbour Board (DHB), which runs the port as a trust, believes privatisation is the only way to secure much-needed investment yet opponents fear this could see a historic and commercial asset sold into foreign hands.

It led wartime Forces' Sweetheart Dame Vera, famous for her song The White Cliffs of Dover and now aged 93, to speak up for the community alternative. "I would support the campaign for the local people to manage it. It was such an important scene for the boys who were going away and when they came back," she said.

Dover and Deal MP Charlie Elphicke welcomed her high-profile support when he spoke on the BBC Breakfast show about the privatisation. "It was a good opportunity for people up and down the country to find out about what

people in Dover think about these plans," he said. "I'm encouraged that the ferry companies support this plan, the trade unions tell me they like it as well and there is support from the people in Dover. It's a real shot in the arm having Dame Vera Lynn supporting the campaign."

But DHB struck back this week, taking the Unite union to task for allegedly failing "to grasp the rationale and driving force" behind the voluntary privatisation and its ability to fund investment needed to handle traffic forecast over the next 30 years.

Failure to release the finance, the statement argued, would "create unsustainable congestion and a wholly inefficient port which, as a facility handling £80 billion of goods a year will be detrimental to the local and national economy. "Unite suggests a sell-off was shelved by the previous government due to an unfavourable response. In fact, it was the previous govern-

ment calling a general election which meant that a decision was unlikely to be made until a new government was in place.

"Indeed, such benefits are unprecedented in that a Port of Dover Community Trust (PDCT) would be established with an immediate cash sum of £10 million with a tripling of the PDCT's assets through the holding of shares in the new company. The PDCT would be independently chaired and would be both representative and for the benefit of the community and the long term regeneration of the area."

Chief executive Bob Goldfield also said he had been misquoted last week in our report stating a new owner had been lined up for the port.

"We have no owner lined up. What I explained was that we would of course be looking for an investor who would share our objectives and vision of where we want to take the port business," he said.

A decision on whether the port should be sold is expected in the autumn.



Dame Vera Lynn



# BUSINESS WEEK

online: [www.businessforkent.co.uk](http://www.businessforkent.co.uk)

## Comment

NOT SO LONG after being reminded of Winston Churchill's famous Battle of Britain speech from 70 years ago, we can expect the wartime leader's praise of The Few to be bas-tardised for the forthcoming Battle of Dover.

The extended deadline for submissions about the port's future ended officially last week and we wait to hear what the Government thinks about plans from Dover Harbour Board – The New Few – to privatise what has been a public trust.

The New Many – the big ferry operators and the Dover public – are in the opposing trenches, backing a so-called People's Port. This aims to maintain the port as a public asset, while somehow allowing it to borrow for investment – an avenue closed to the current management structure and the main plank of the management's privatisation plan.

As if there were not enough echoes of the wartime battles endured and watched by Dover, the conflict attracted even more nostalgia this week when Dame Vera Lynn – another wartime totem and famous for her song The White Cliffs of Dover – gave high profile backing for the people's option.

The veteran singer also nailed an emotive side of the argument when she said the port "was such an important scene for the boys who were going away and when they came back".

Privatisation brings the risk that what is a famous wartime location as well as modern business conduit could fall into the hands of foreign investors – another piece of the UK's family silver sold off. We can only hope The Few reconsider rather than end up owing so much to The Many – with apologies, Sir Winston. By the way, wasn't it good to hear the old boy's own 'finest hour' again, the other week, along with the thunder of Merlin engines?

It could mean that a younger generation realise the word Churchill stands for something other than a fictional computer generated bulldog whose most famous speech is: "Oh, yes."

STEVE LOADER, BUSINESS EDITOR



## Flying visit by MP highlights balance need

SUCCESSFUL Sittingbourne-based aerospace and defence contractor Aeromet International has been held up as a standard-bearer for the UK's move to a more balanced economy.

It followed a visit by the area's new MP Gordon Henderson, organised by the influential EEF (Engineering Employers Federation) trade body.

Aeromet has a global reputation for producing hi-tech components for names such as aviation giants Airbus and Boeing.

Chief executive Jeff Smith said his firm had weathered the recent downturn – it employs 130 people in Kent and 380 nationally – and maintained the financial strength required for a return to growth.

He added: "With the right support, manufacturing in the UK will continue to provide growth, employment



**TOP FLIGHT:** Conservative MP Gordon Henderson is flanked by Aeromet chief executive Jeff Smith (left) and Jeff Alexander of trade body EEF

and value to both the local and national economies."

Mr Henderson said: "I'm a great supporter of local businesses and delighted to have had the opportunity to discuss key issues of concern to manufacturers, particularly as it is the Government's intention to move towards a more balanced economy."

"Aeromet demonstrates how it is possible for local companies to be suc-

cessful on the world stage through a culture of best practice, innovation and technical excellence."

EEF spokesman Jeff Alexander said: "With manufacturing in the South East worth £18 billion and employing 320,000 people, we must encourage Government to create an environment that is conducive to success so the objective of a more balanced economy becomes a reality."

## Mum's the word

ENTREPRENEURIAL parents are on the march and they have a banner – mumpreneurs, *writes Steve Loader*.

And those who plan to launch a business once the kids start school this autumn or who have recently set up a business, can get free help at a seminar in Tunbridge Wells on Wednesday, September 15.

It follows the success of a first seminar for 'mumpreneurs' earlier this year, staged by Buss Murton Law, which has offices in Tunbridge Wells, Cranbrook and Dartford.

Reshma Field, a partner at the law firm, said mumpreneurs was a recent term coined for "mums, and dads, who run businesses while juggling the demands of looking after children and the home".

She added: "Many have already had successful careers and having taken a break to raise a family are looking for a new challenge. Running a business can be enormously rewarding and it is possible to be both a mum and an entrepreneur."

"The types of business they run are diverse, from publishing to retailing, and while often starting out on the dining room table they can quickly grow into well-known and profitable enterprises."

Her firm is co-hosting this time with Tunbridge Wells' Kids Direct

magazine, which highlights local activities and opportunities open to children and whose proprietor Anita Venezia Yau, is happy to be called a mumpreneur herself.

She quit her job at the London Stock Exchange seven years ago with the arrival of her first child, Alex. When Alex started school three years ago, Anita itched for a new challenge, without the commute and commitment of a busy City job.

She needed a career that would work around the school day and school holidays. Kids Direct, a franchise, presented the perfect opportunity. Anita said: "When I started the business three years ago I had no idea we were about to enter the toughest recession for a decade, and it has been bad. However, the business has made a small profit every year and we are now beginning to expand."

"I do consider myself a mumpreneur and my business is still running from the dining room table. This

business has given me the opportunity to make new friends in the community and contribute to the family income. I have started to see a lot more mums and dads launch businesses this year and I believe mumpreneurs form the grass roots of the business community."

Key topics at the seminar will be:

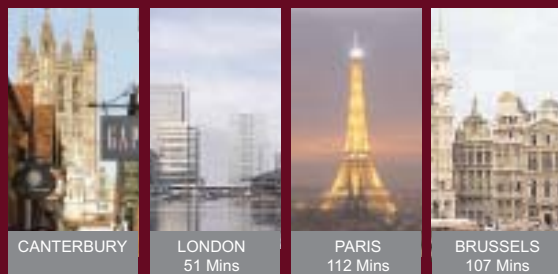
- Legal issues you have to think about when running a business.
- Contracts between providers and suppliers
- Terms and conditions
- Drafting simple legal documents
- Addressing problems arising in running your business and preventing them in the first place.

The seminar also aims to dispel myths surrounding the legal and accounting side of setting up and running a business and will be interactive. Those attending can raise any issues they are having.

The venue is Buss Murton Law's head office at 7-9 Church Road, Tunbridge Wells, with registration from 9am and the seminar running from 9.30-11.30am to be followed by a buffet lunch.

Places can be booked via Janine Lowe on 01892 502355.

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Julie Maddocks reports from  
Sittingbourne's preserving and  
pickling specialist Bennett Opie  
– celebrating its 130th anniversary

## Networking opportunity

INVESTMENT promotion agency Locate in Kent has launched a series of events to boost networking and market intelligence for commercial property agents.

The first event was held at the agency's offices in Kings Hill, near West Malling, and run jointly with Kings Hill developer Liberty Property Trust UK.

Twenty local agents attended and Locate in Kent director of business development Peter Symons said: "It's a difficult period for the property industry, but the good news is that we have a very healthy pipeline of 304 projects and have assisted in bringing 28 investments into the county

since April. It's encouraging that these companies have occupied more than 150,000 sq ft of space, but it's a sign of the times that the average space requirement of our active projects has reduced over the last four years by six per cent for industrial and by 21 per cent for office space.

"Investors are making more use of the web than ever before. Half of our successes so far this year came to us originally through our property portal. It's an invaluable resource for investors and a great opportunity for agents to showcase their portfolios."

The next event will be at the Innovation Centre, Medway.



# BUSINESS WEEK

online: [www.businessforkent.co.uk](http://www.businessforkent.co.uk)

**MANUFACTURERS** in Kent can join a free one-day environmental workshop staged by MAS South East on September 20 in Tunbridge Wells. The Government-backed Manufacturing Advisory Service believes regulations surrounding environmental performance often result in firms pushing green objectives to the bottom of the list in tough times. Spokesman Patrick Lee said: "Tackling environmental legislation doesn't have to be taxing. A proactive approach will provide manufacturers with commercial advantages, including reduced energy costs, competitor differentiation and possible bonus payments through carbon reduction." Contact [christinewhittaker@mas-se.org.uk](mailto:christinewhittaker@mas-se.org.uk) or call 01256 741034 for details.

**LEGAL and financial firm Whitehead Monckton is throwing open the doors of its Maidstone office on September 24 to support Macmillan Cancer's World's Biggest Coffee Morning. From 10am to noon, clients and the public can enjoy coffee and cake for a suggested donation of £2 to support the event, which attracted 43,000 people and raised £7.9 million nationwide last year. Anyone wishing to go along should contact Sarah Turner on 01622 698046 or [sarahturner@whitehead-monckton.co.uk](mailto:sarahturner@whitehead-monckton.co.uk).**

**HIGH Street sales in August were higher than for the same month in 2009 – the second consecutive year-on-year increase, says the CBI. Volumes were ahead 35 per cent overall and shops also expect more growth this month and for the next quarter, with clothing, groceries, household durables, footwear, leather, hardware and DIY being the standout sectors.**

## Ensuring a good fit for the environment

**TOUGHER** trading conditions are making many firms think twice about moving premises, but they then often have to weigh up making environmental upgrades, *writes Steve Loader.*

It's a fact highlighted by Richard Metcalfe, principal at chartered building surveyors Metcalfe Stanley Hicks, based at Hadlow, Tonbridge, who has also become one of the first people in the country to qualify as a SKA rating assessor.

SKA rating is a method designed to rate and compare the environmental performance of fit-out projects, initially for office buildings in the UK.

"In the current economic climate, occupiers are more likely to refurbish existing offices than move to new ones, but while there are proven methods for labelling the environmental performance of whole buildings, fit-out has remained a blind spot," said Mr Metcalfe. "The SKA rating aims to address that. At the moment, the scheme only covers office buildings and is not compulsory, but in future it is expected to expand in scope."

SKA rating comprises 99 good practice measures across the headings energy and CO<sub>2</sub>, waste, water, pollution, transport, materials and wellbeing.

Depending on the number of measures achieved and their significance for sustainability, a fit-out is then awarded either gold,



**ASSESSOR:** Richard Metcalfe

silver or bronze ranking. While designed to be of particular use for occupiers, it also has benefits for landlords, developers, consultants, fit-out contractors and suppliers.

Mr Metcalfe said: "Including the SKA rating in 'green lease' provisions helps improve the sustainability of properties or protects buildings already certified under a whole building assessment method. Sustainability increasingly makes good business sense."

"Research demonstrates an expected increase in the asset value of labelled low-carbon buildings compared with standard speculative buildings."

"Companies looking to refurbish should seriously considering the environmental integrity of their plans."

## Takeover target rejects suitors

**HEARTWOOD** Wealth, the Kent-based independent investment management firm, has been the takeover target for several larger rivals and banks. But approaches are unwelcome according to City updates about the growing reputation of Heartwood, which manages £1 billion of assets and has offices in Covent Garden, London, as well as the Mount Ephraim headquarters in Tunbridge Wells.

The 20-year-old firm recently won a category and was nominated for two others in the Private Asset Manager (PAM) awards – seen as the Oscars of the wealth management industry – and has been stalked by Royal Bank of Canada and Swiss bank UBS among others, according to Financial News.

But Heartwood bosses have told suitors they value the company's independence and believe their business model is winning custom from larger rivals. Chief investment officer Noland Carter has told Financial News: "We believe a boutique owned mainly by the people who work in it is the best model for a wealth and investment management business focusing on private clients and charities."

"Over 90 per cent of the business is owned by two-thirds of staff, so our interests are aligned with those of our clients. If we were owned by a large global parent, the positive ethos inherent in our partnership model could be lost."

Far from allowing a takeover, Mr Carter said the company had not ruled out an acquisition itself "if it is the right fit".

The company also made news recently with research showing that, following the Government's proposed abandonment of the default retirement age, 44 per cent of people aged 65 and over still in work are planning to continue to do so until they are at least 70 and 21 per cent said they'll never retire.



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## 'My Business Week ...'

by Mike Startup, a partner at DSH Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors in Maidstone

MONDAY – Drive to Brighton to visit accountants of a company owner who was injured in an accident a couple of years previously.

Solicitors want an independent forensic accountant's report on the losses suffered as a result. I discuss the claim with the accountant, then spend a couple of hours going through files and accounting records before the claimant arrives to answer questions. Stay to dictate my notes, then face the M23/M25 back to Maidstone.



yard full of interesting machines. Unfortunately, they will not let me loose on any of them. Clear outstanding points so the accounts can be got ready for signing. Grab a sandwich on way back to the office.

Review another set of accounts and get drafts out to the client.

THURSDAY – Spend the morning with an apple farmer to go through the accounts. 2009 was a good year, with a reasonable crop of apples and other fruit, and this year is not looking bad either, if the prices hold up. Visit

TUESDAY – Chair monthly finance committee meeting, as trustee and honorary treasurer of the Heart of Kent Hospice. The meeting covers the finalisation of the audited accounts. Back to the office to catch up on emails and post, deal with phone queries and drop off the work from yesterday to my secretary. I prepare for a meeting at a doctors' surgery in Maidstone. Run through accounts for the previous year with the doctors.

Back to the office to sign the post. Go through the outstanding audit points for a medium-sized group of companies for the audit clearance tomorrow.

WEDNESDAY – In by 8am to answer letters and deal with queries from other team members.

On to a client's office for an audit clearance meeting. This client deals with heavy plant and machinery sales around the world and has a

another farmer whose partnership has expanded and we need to get the land transferred into the partnership. They want to build a grain store and are looking at means to finance this, which we discuss.

Home at 6.15pm to take daughter to football practice. It's pleasant in the sunshine watching the Meridian Girls under-11s practising. DSH will be sponsoring the team this season, so let's hope they do well. Drop daughter home and dash out to pick up my son from Air Cadets. Home by 10pm.

FRIDAY – In at 8am to catch up with administration and client work. We are blessed in having a good team and the quality of the work they produce often only needs a quick review and out it can go.

Attend Rotary lunch meeting, then back to the office where I clear a few more files and plan my work for the week ahead.

# Jon's longer



JON RIMMER

Property is a topsy-turvy business. Prices are up, prices are down, but they've seen it all before at Hobbs Parker, the auctions and property group currently celebrating its 160th anniversary. But if there can be a sign of confidence in the market it must be the independent group's decision to move outside its Ashford stronghold and open a satellite estate agency at The Fairings in Tenterden this week. It also recently appointed a new chairman to oversee the group's various divisions. Business Week editor STEVE LOADER spoke to Jon Rimmer about the property sector and the group's diverse business portfolio

KOSmedia BUSINESS WEEK

## THE BIG INTERVIEW

**H**OBBS Parker is pleasantly full of contradictions. It has been around for 160 years and is perceived as a traditional independent local firm centred on the Ashford area.

Yet it operates from modern offices 'above the shop' at Ashford Market on the town's Orbital Park, where it can keep a close eye on its various auction interests, from livestock to cars to property. And yet it is one of the best-known names in its field countywide.

It was also restructured on modern lines in 2005 into separate profit centres – estate agency, auctions, car auctions, property consultancy and business telecoms – that have seen it go from strength to strength, culminating in this week's opening of a new estate agency in Tenterden.

This is a big deal, says newly appointed chairman Jon Rimmer, 42, who oversees the various divisions while continuing as MD of the property consultancy.

He sees the new Tenterden office, run by director Simon Godfrey, as not only a vote of confidence by Hobbs Parker's estate agency arm, but by the group in difficult times.

"We are very much a traditional firm with traditional values and a lot of people have worked here for many years," he said.

"And we have a strong, well-known and trusted brand, associated for so long with this part of the South East.

"But we also have a modern structure and a diversity that has been our strength during the recent economic upheaval. Opening up in Tenterden shows we are confident about the future.

"That area fits with the type of property portfolio we already operate, but it is also about service. We can put the name up on the office, but you've got to back it up with the service associated with that name – you can spend years building your profile, but take only minutes to trash it.

"Yes, it's a big investment, but we are in it for the long term, whatever the ups and downs of the property market in the shorter term.

"Despite what we read nationally, I would describe the Kent market as steady, but I wouldn't want to get into predictions and I defy anyone to call the property market trend correctly at the moment.

"In this part of the county, though, we are seeing real price stability and optimism brought by the high-speed rail link and we will see more benefits from that.

"Like many people, I didn't really take much notice of its arrival. It finally hit home when I used it for a meeting in London. Meetings there

used to kill the day, but I was there in good time for an afternoon meeting and back here before the end of the working day. It will have a long-lasting influence."

However, he is bemused by the recent rocketing of agricultural land prices across the UK.

"No-one really saw it coming. We had a lot of 'hobby' buyers drop out during the recession and while business

### JON RIMMER'S CV

- 1991 – joined Hobbs Parker after graduation in estate management, later qualifying as a chartered surveyor and agricultural valuer
- 1994 – joined Halls of Kidderminster
- 1995 – joined Bruton Knowles, one of the major property consultants across the Midlands and West Country, later becoming an associate partner
- 1999 – returned to Hobbs Parker, becoming a partner in 2001, a divisional MD in 2005 and chairman this year

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**HEAD OFFICE:** Hobbs Parker's HQ at Romney House, Ashford Market, on the Orbital Park, belies the firm's traditional values but speaks volumes about a modern approach to its many business interests





# view of the market



**HEIGHT OF AMBITION:** Jon Rimmer, far right, with Three Peaks Challenge colleagues who tackled Ben Nevis, Snowdon and Scafell Pike

has improved in livestock farming and the arable sector – though it's been a frustrating harvest this year – there is no obvious leap in farming profitability. In fact, there is a lot of volatility in the cost of fuel, fertiliser and machinery – combines cost £300k-plus.

"On the other hand, it is not so surprising that land values are strong in the South East, where not a great amount of farming land comes onto the market. And the banks, while tightening up on loans elsewhere, have remained open for lending in agriculture, which is seen as a good long-term industry to lend to."

Asked whether he thinks values are being driven by a farming revival on the back of concerns about the UK's long-term ability to feed itself, he said: "People keep saying we've

got to produce more, but not unless we get some more land. We're doing about as well as we can with what we've got. Farmers are now very good at producing consistent yields."

His confidence in dealing with land and farming issues comes not just from 20 years' professional experience, but also from his background. He comes from a Lancashire farming family and his wife Lydia grew up the Midlands with the same background.

They have three young daughters and live near Ashford. It is also clear, though, that Jon relishes the group overview he gained from taking over as chairman from Richard Wood, who retired this year after 30 years with Hobbs Parker, although he continues as a consultant.

Jon said: "I have an involvement in the

smooth-running of the group, along with Roger Lightfoot, the chief executive, but is it a big stick? Probably not – I hope not.

"That's the whole point about running separate divisions, separate accounts – you can't hide. We have accountability and people know what they have to do."

It also gives credence to two of Hobbs Parker's more unlikely parts, the business telecoms and car auctions business – the latter underlining this with its now traditional Bank Holiday Monday auction, which moved a record 150 vehicles.

"There are businesses in the country with our kind of diversity, but not in this area and not of our overall size," said Jon.

"That's one reason why I came back. My wife was instrumental in me making up my

mind. She said, 'I think this is where you want to be, not part of a big corporate animal. This is more your bag'. She was absolutely right."

It has also allowed him to help out with auctions, which he clearly enjoys: "We have a first-class market facility and a premier team of auctioneers. I don't do so much now, but having gavel in hand is a huge adrenalin rush."

"You also need the strength of personality. They [the buyers] are in it for business and if they can find the chink in the armour, they will play on it."

"If they can try to buy things for not very much, then why wouldn't they try? Equally, if you are good at your job and respect them, then I think they respect you."

Does this hint at a competitive streak?

He admitted: "Yes, I'm hugely competitive, although while I may have thought about becoming chairman, thinking it might actually come my way wasn't really on the radar."

But he has played rugby – as a scrum half – tennis, squash and golf and completed the Three Peaks Challenge (Ben Nevis, Snowdon and Scafell Pike) in 2009 with a team of clients and friends from Kent, raising £14,000 for charity. "I'm itching to more of that kind of thing," he said.



**EARLY DAYS:** Auction poster from 1853, just three years after W&B Hobbs was formed

## JON'S TOP TIPS

- Be enthusiastic – "Go the extra hard yard – things will happen and you will find that job satisfaction."

- Just listen – "Most people want to help you if you show you are on the same wavelength and want to listen."

"We try to get our graduates genuinely involved, getting hands-on experience to go with the textbook stuff. It means the 'gut feeling' that comes from experience makes the job that bit easier, more satisfying and more professional."

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BRITAIN'S new champion for the bioscience and pharmaceutical industries is a Kent man.

Brian Szukala, who lives in Eastry, has a 28-year background spanning both sectors, a degree in bioscience and a CV including blue-chip names such as Beechams and Pfizer, and a spell with the Prince's Trust.

He has worked in production, technical training and organisational development, giving him a unique insight into skills needs across the industries.

His new post with the Government-backed £2.9 million Working Higher initiative calls for him to strengthen the bridge between universities and industry, and help to develop a new work-based qualification for the bioscience and pharmaceutical sectors.

The aim is to boost skills within the workforce and attract new entrants looking for an alternative to a standard university degree.

Mr Szukala is one of six industry champions appointed and each is working alongside a partner university to develop course content and delivery for their particular sector; the bioscience and pharmaceuticals foundation degree is being led by the University of Kent.

Industry champions like Mr Szukala will liaise with employers to design the new qualifications around the skills they need from their workforce.

He said: "The response so far has been positive, but we need more employers to work with us so the new degrees are a true representation of what the industry



**BRIAN SZUKALA**

employers identify the value of knowledge and skills individuals gain through time spent working in industry; hence the added value placed on 'sandwich' years and industrial placements. Maximising the workplace as a learning environment is equally important."

Employers who want to get involved can contact Mr Szukala at: brian@tknp.co.uk.

needs, whether they are a multinational or an SME.

"Current higher education provision is predominantly aimed at full-time study, with few routes for those already in work to gain or enhance skills through work-based routes. Working as a consortium with other sector partners the Working Higher initiative seeks to make sure these new work-based degrees reflect the needs of employers and employees. Learning should be a lifelong process and this needs to be reflected in the variety of routes offered for work-based learners.

"Across most sectors, employers identify the value of knowledge and skills individuals gain through time spent working in industry; hence the added value placed on 'sandwich' years and industrial placements. Maximising the workplace as a learning environment is equally important."

Employers who want to get involved can contact Mr Szukala at: brian@tknp.co.uk.

# First aid challenge issued by St John

By **STEVE LOADER**

steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

EMPLOYERS in Kent must see first aid as vital to their corporate social responsibility and to reducing unnecessary deaths – not simply a legal tick box.

That was the hard-hitting line from St John Ambulance South East director Sabarah Cursons, who highlighted how up to 150,000 people die in England and Wales annually in situations where first aid could have given them a chance to live.

Her organisation is now challenging firms to train as many first aiders as possible.

She said: "Companies are already required to train a minimum number of staff in first aid. We are asking them to go further and train as many

employees as possible, or at least help spread basic first aid knowledge within the workplace. We can reduce the number of people dying needlessly, while employees feel empowered, cared for and recognise the contribution their employer is making.

"Many businesses offer employees gym membership or language lessons, but what could be more important than equipping your workforce with the skills to save a life?"

Tonbridge and Malling based housing association Russet already has staff trained to be first aiders, but has gone one step further by offering free places on St John Ambulance's emergency life support

child and infant courses to residents.

Russet's Melanie McAdam said: "We've had very positive feedback and look forward to continuing to work with St John Ambulance to ensure even more people know how to save a life."

Research by St John Ambulance found that nearly two-thirds of people would like first aid training at work. Ms Cursons said: "First aid training helps keep employees safe and provides them with life-saving knowledge that benefits not only their colleagues, but their families, friends and community.

"What better legacy for an organisation to leave than life itself, and the ability to preserve it?"

For a free needs assessment or to book a first aid course, call 08447 704801 or visit www.sja.org.uk.

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RAIL operator Southeastern has gained an Investors in People (IIP) bronze award for its commitment to staff training.

The award echoes the firm's best ever result in the independent National Passenger Survey, which showed eight out of 10 passengers found the company to be good or satisfactory. MD Charles Horton said: "Our

employees are the face of the company and the more we can do to provide them with the training and support they need to do their job, then the better it is for passengers."

Southeastern intends to maintain staff investment and is aiming at silver and gold IIP awards over the next two years, committing £10.3 million for training and development.



**BUSINESS WEEK SPOTLIGHT** AGRIBUSINESSonline: [www.businessforkent.co.uk](http://www.businessforkent.co.uk)

## Why getting the balance right is vital

MAKE your mind up time is fast approaching on how Kent uses its ever more valuable agricultural acres as pressures grow on use of the land and water supplies, writes Pat Crawford.

Charles Tassell, county chairman for the National Farmers' Union, said this week: "The challenge facing us today is getting the balance right over future land usage."

"If you look around you will see fields being taken out of food production for things as diverse as providing habitat for birds, at one end of the scale, to more pony paddocks and other recreational use at the other."

"Mix into this the potential demand for biofuels of various types and the need for more out-of-season water capture and you can see that the amount of land for food production is coming under increasing pressure."

Looking at water, forecasters say climate change means we face drastic reductions in summer rainfall accompanied by much heavier rain during winter, at a time when multiple bathrooms are common in many homes and we take daily showers or baths for granted compared with a bath once a week two to three generations ago, when most households also did the laundry just once a week.

### Precious

Climate change will naturally benefit the growing season, but that will be useless if householders consume water at current rates or higher unless winter downpours can be stored for a sunny day. But will more precious land need to be requisitioned for reservoirs, or are there other solutions that would make less demand on land usage?

One option is adoption of more 'grey water' facilities, now being installed in some new homes and making use of rainwater gathering and recycled washing water.

But the biggest issue relates to the amount of land that will be needed to grow food. At the moment we import vast quantities and know we must become more self-sufficient, but the population of the UK is set to increase in line with the rest of the world.

Thus, will any increases in food production be offset by a relative increase in the numbers of people we must feed?

Views about food production methods and land usage are polarised. Some scientists want to go along the GM and intensive farming route – any method that will increase yield per acre.

Others suggest we should get rid of livestock because cattle and sheep are not viable in relation to the amount of land needed to rear them and their 'agricultural footprint' produces too many carbon emissions.

**CHARLES TASSELL**

# Investing in farmland instead of the Footsie

By **STEVE LOADER**[steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk)

ANYONE who bought English farmland 10 years ago was either shrewd or extremely lucky.

While the FTSE 100 index of leading shares has slumped 20 per cent since then, research from big name estate agent Knight Frank shows agricultural land has virtually trebled in value.

And the momentum continues – values are already up 13 per cent so far in 2010.

Sources closer to home – see our Big Interview with Ashford-based agency Hobbs Parker's chairman Jon Rimmer earlier in this section – remain unconvinced that agricultural land values can maintain their breakneck pace.

Nevertheless, there are plenty of headlines about buying farmland being 'as good as gold'.

### Encouraged

Knight Frank's rural property spokesman Andrew Shirley said: "The farmland market has now regained much of the ground it lost after the credit crunch when sales virtually ground to a halt."

"Over the past 15 years farmland has performed significantly better than residential property and the FTSE 100 index."

Knight Frank says buying into farmland has also been encouraged by EU subsidies being paid in euros. As sterling has fallen, farmers have benefited from the currency fluctuation and Knight Frank added that the recent Budget contained nothing to impact upon the farmland market.

Prices also reflect the law of supply and demand say experts, certainly the case in Kent and the South East according to Hobbs Parker, where scarcity has been a major factor in price hikes.

Longer term, the signs in Whitehall also point to higher prices. Knight Frank reckons the coalition Government is more sympathetic to the agricultural sector and the estate agency's latest Rural Bulletin reported: "The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs under Labour seemed more interested in the environment part of its portfolio than anything to do with food production."

"Encouragingly, the top priority in Defra's new draft structural reform plan is to support and develop British farming and encourage sustainable food production."

"The new Defra team, which has been drawn entirely from Tory ranks, also has

**DEEP ROOTS:** Green, pleasant and extremely valuable – farmland has outstripped the FTSE

genuine experience of agriculture. Jim Paice, the minister in charge of farming, has already adopted a more hands-on approach than his predecessor by taking a tough stance on reform of the shambolic Rural Payments Agency (RPA) and the control of bovine tuberculosis.

"Mr Paice has taken personal responsibility for reforming the RPA, which is in charge of distributing or, as was often the case, not distributing £2.3 billion of annual subsidy payments to English farmers."

"The RPA has just been slammed by an independent review commissioned by the last government. Defra has also been forced to repay £160m to the European Commission following maladministration of subsidy payments by the RPA."

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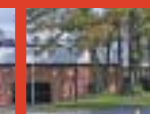
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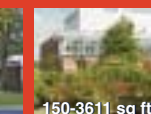
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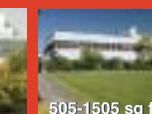
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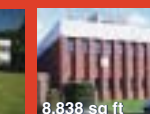
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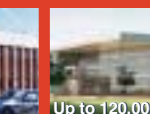
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## Timeline

**KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 50 years**

**1960** 50 YEARS AGO: KENT'S season ended on a flat note when they lost their final game at Dover to a Leicestershire side who went into the game bottom of the County Championship.

The visitors made 206 in their first innings and Kent crawled along in their reply, reaching 166 for 8 at the end of a second day curtailed by rain at the tea interval, at which point they declared.

Batting conditions were difficult, but only Derek Ufton really seemed interested, making an unbeaten 26 in half an hour.

Leicestershire made 144 for 8 declared in their second innings and with nothing at stake Kent went for the runs, falling 51 short of their target of 184.

In football Gillingham earned a 1-1 draw away to Oldham in Division Four.

Bromley trounced Woking 4-1 away in the Isthmian League, while Maidstone United were held 1-1 at home by St Albans.

**1985** 25 YEARS AGO: RICHARD Ellison was again the hero as England regained the Ashes with a rout of Australia at The Oval.

Australia were forced to follow on after making 241 in reply to England's first innings total of 464 and lost by an innings and 94 runs, prompting David Gower's infamous quip: "The West Indies must be quaking in their boots."

Ellison, the Ashford-born bowler recalled to dramatic effect for the previous Test at Edgbaston, produced another match-winning performance, claiming 5 for 46 in Australia's second innings, including the key wicket of skipper Allan Border for 58.

In the two matches he played in the series, Kent's Ellison took 17 wickets at 11 runs apiece.

**2000** 10 YEARS AGO: GILLINGHAM got their first ever win in the second tier of English football, with a 1-0 win over Wolves, in front of 10,017 at Priestfield.

Junior Lewis scored the only goal of the game, heading in Nicky Southall's cross from close range.

Manager Andy Hessenthaler admitted: "We have scored early in nearly every game so far and I must admit I was panicking a bit when we did so again after four minutes."

Carl Asaba and Marlon King also went close for the Gills, who were good value for the three points against a Wolves side that included Joleon Lescott, Temuri Ketsbaia and future Gillingham player Simon Osborn, who had the visitors' best effort of the game.

## Brands win to boost Paffett's bid for second DTM title

A VICTORY at Brands Hatch could be priceless for Gary Paffett on Sunday as he aims to take the lead in the DTM Championship.

The 29-year-old Bromley driver will line up on the grid at the 1.2-mile circuit eager to boost his hopes of securing a second DTM touring car crown.

Paffett, the 2005 champion, and a packed field of touring car drivers, face a relentless 98-lap race around the circuit that's sure to test their concentration and fitness levels.

After a win last time out at Zandvoort in Holland, the Kent racer has closed the gap on championship leader Bruno Spengler to nine points and is hoping to make further progress towards the title.

Paffett said: "We will do more laps around



**CLOSING THE GAP: Driver Gary Paffett**

Brands Hatch than everywhere else in the entire season. The nature of the circuit means there is no time to rest, so it will be tough. It's

a strange situation because 98 laps sounds like a lot and I have never seen anything like that on my pit board, but when you're in a battle with someone the laps fly by."

Race fans will also see ex-Formula One stars David Coulthard and Ralf Schumacher battling for supremacy. The series has attracted a number of well known drivers in the past, and all have found the championship hard to master. However, Paffett, a McLaren Formula One test driver, has had no problems making the adjustment.

He said: "I've been racing DTM and driving Formula One cars for some time now and it's very different. I think it's understandable when drivers find it tough learning the championship after 20 years or so in Formula One."

# Trying season ahead for county's top clubs

THE new rugby season kicks off this weekend and every one of the county's clubs begins the new campaign with fresh optimism that this is their season to shine.

Blackheath, who will be skippered by Tom Bason, have designs on bettering their seventh-placed finish in National 1, having finished last season strongly.

In National 2 South, Canterbury have bolstered their coaching team by bringing in Tim McBennett and Lee Jeffery, while Westcombe Park have made widespread changes to their playing staff.

Gravesend begin life in National 3 & London SE under lead coach Paul Hathaway, who left Tunbridge Wells to replace Bob Hussey.

London 1 South looks set to throw up the most intriguing title race, with five Kent clubs vying for honours in a division that will be even stronger than last season.

Dover finished second in the last campaign before losing in the play-offs and they will once again rely on home-grown talent to sustain their promotion push.

With three strong sides dropping down from National 3, competition will be fierce at the top of the table, but everyone will be wary of newly-promoted Tonbridge Juddians, whose seven new signings include several acquisitions from national League clubs.

Their local rivals, Tunbridge Wells, survived relegation by the skin of their teeth last season and chairman Roger Clarke is unsure what the next eight months will bring.

He said: "It's pretty difficult to gauge



**RARING TO GO: Canterbury (left in black) and Thanet Wanderers face a tough season ahead**



## STEVE TERVET takes a look at how our teams are shaping up as another punishing term of league action gets underway this weekend

because there have been so many changes in our league. We expect Haywards Heath, Portsmouth and Sutton & Epsom to be well-equipped, but you just don't know."

Another side likely to find the going tough are Thanet Wanderers, who have a new captain in Neil Wakefield following the departure of Ben Massey to Canterbury.

"I'm not a great believer in targets because they can be decimated in the first six games," head coach Tom Carlier said. "However, the squad's looking good, we feel confident and we're pretty much where we want to be at this stage."

In London 2 South East, Sevenoaks have

assembled a strong squad, while Deal & Betseshanger will be looking to improve on their mid-table finish.

Maidstone and Aylesford Bulls endured a tortuous time in London 1 South last term, but should both be competitive one level down, with Maidstone now led by head coach Andy Foley.

Cranbrook are the new boys in London 3 South East, but promotion has come at a price, with several Cranes players snapped up by other clubs. Medway consolidated their place in the division last term and will be looking to push on, while former Wasps player Darren Molloy is the new man in charge at Folkestone.

## German test crucial for duo

LEON Camier and Shane Byrne will be out to prove a point at Germany's Nurburgring as the World Superbike Championship returns after its summer break.

The pair, who have endured contrasting campaigns in the world championship, are yet to confirm their plans for next year and strong results this weekend could prove crucial.

Camier's future in the championship seems to be a lot more certain after a solid debut season at Aprilia.

The 23-year-old from Ashford has finished on the podium three times this season, but could be

forced to play a team game today, as teammate Max Biaggi aims to move a step closer to the title.

Camier said: "I'm glad to be back to be honest, but the break has been good. We have only got three races to go so I'm just hoping we can finish the season on a high."

"I've not ridden the track before so it will be a case of doing a few laps on my scooter to learn it, but it should be fine."

Without a finish in the top five this season, Byrne, from Sheppey, is desperate for a string of strong results to boost his chances of staying in the series for next year.



**DEBUT SEASON: Leon Camier**



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# Stage is set for battle of Britain

## Kent cyclist Kristian House to take on top riders in UK Tour

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

THE TOUR of Britain begins next weekend with Kristian House eyeing a stage win in the biggest event on the domestic cycling calendar.

Road racing is enjoying a renaissance in the UK on the back of Mark Cavendish and Bradley Wiggins' successes at the Tour de France in recent years.

It has seen Britain's tour come out of the doldrums to become a respected, well supported event, with more than one million spectators watching last year's race.

### Sprint

This year's edition begins in the north west next Saturday, with an 82-mile ride from Rochdale culminating in what should be a bunch sprint on the Blackpool Promenade.

From there it will move south through Wales to two stages in the south west before two more in East Anglia and the finale on the streets of London.

House, a former national road racing champi-

on, finished in a career-best position of 10th in the general classification last year.

The 30-year-old, who grew up near Canterbury, goes into the tour in good form after finishing third at the Mi Aout Bretagne last month.

The race is always a highlight for the Rapha Condor Sharp rider, who is hoping for some individual glory this time round.

"In the back of your head you're always thinking about the Tour of Britain," he said.

"Finishing in the top 10 last year was great, but a stage win would be even better."

"You have to take your opportunities as they come, but it depends on the team's goals. I think the stages in the South West are the ones I think will be key."

Although the majority of cycling's biggest names are in action in the Vuelta a Espana, one of the sport's three grand tours, the field for the Tour of Britain should be strong. Wiggins and Geraint Thomas are expected to lead a strong Team Sky, who will be looking to dominate after a disappointing first season.

There are several other big teams in the line-up, including Garmin-Transitions, HTC-Columbia and Team Saxo Bank.

The Tour has been a proving



Pictures: House: TOUR OF BRITAIN; Wiggins: TEAM SKY

**ROAD RACERS: Bradley Wiggins' (left) success has given the Tour of Britain and cyclists like Kristian House (above) a boost**

ground for several emerging stars in recent years, with this year's Tour de France runner-up Andy Schleck winning the King of the Mountains jersey in 2006 and Edvald Boasson Hagen, now at Team Sky and a potential Tour de France winner in the future, taking the overall title last year.



**POWERHOUSE: Chris Simmons is in form**

## Medal haul would give Chris a big lift

A RISING powerlifter is hoping to complete a quick-fire hat-trick of medals at major events this weekend.

Chris Simmons is taking part in the British Unequipped Championships in Birmingham, looking to carry on his great form this summer.

The 24-year-old, who trains in Dover, finished third at the British Equipped Championships in July.

He followed it up with silver a fortnight ago in the All England Championships, missing out on gold by just five kilograms.

It is only Simmons' first season as a senior after making the step up from the junior ranks, where he won the British Unequipped and All England titles last year.

With only 18 months of competing behind him, the school teacher admits the rapid success has been a little unexpected.

He said: "It has come as a bit of a surprise, but I have worked very hard to get to where I am. After a third and a second place, hopefully I can go one better again and win in Birmingham."

# Dynamos' dominance under threat

THE PUCK drops on the new ice hockey season this weekend with Invicta Dynamos' long dominance of National League South under threat.

The club have won the league title every year since dropping out of the Premier Division in 2002, but their grip at this level may finally be loosening.

A busy close season has seen the squad rebuilt, with just five of the 18-strong roster staying on from the last campaign. Of the 13 new players there are several exciting young talents tipped to rise up the ranks quickly, including Liam Chong, who played in every game for Great Britain's under-18 squad at the World Championships earlier this year.

Canadian forward Daniel Calitri has joined

from the West Michigan Blizzard, but negotiations continue over the club's second import.

With a major overhaul of the squad and a more competitive division, head coach Kevin Parrish is playing down expectations of successfully defending the league title.

He said: "I would be happy with the top four. With all these changes I've told the boys the main thing is not winning the league."

"We have got it in us to win it, but I think we just lack a bit of experience which may knock us at some point. Having said that the players may stick two fingers up at me and prove me wrong."

The South Division 1 has a new look, with last season's whipping boys Haringey Greyhounds and Peterborough Islanders

dropping out. They are replaced by three new sides - Bristol Pitbulls and Swindon Wildcats coming up from Division 2, and Romford Raiders dropping down.

Wightlink Raiders and Chelmsford Chieftains are believed to be the teams to beat after strengthening in the summer. While the Mos may not be the same formidable force as in recent seasons, Parrish is promising the players he has brought in will entertain.

"It's a younger, hungrier and quicker squad now," he said. "It's not going to be the most physical side I've put together, but I don't think that wins you games week-in week-out."

The Mos start their campaign away to Streatham Redskins on Sunday, and face-off is at 6.45pm.



Picture: DAVID TREVALION

**STAYING PUT: Andy Smith, one of five from last season's squad still at the Dynamos**

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**I**F KENT do get relegated from Division One of the LV= County Championship this season, then it's the batsmen that should be taking a long hard look at themselves.

Much has been made of the depleted bowling attack which at different times of the season has been robbed of Robbie Joseph (played just one championship game), Simon Cook, Dewald Nel, James Tredwell and Sussex-bound Amjad Khan through injury or unavailability.

Yet, in truth, it's been the bowlers that have helped keep the side in games, together with all-rounders Darren Stevens and Azhar Mahmood who have chipped in with 51 wickets between them in the championship.

A crushing 95-run defeat at Warwickshire inside two-and-a-half days this week left Kent firmly entrenched in the relegation zone and with just two games left to play to survive – home to Hampshire next week, followed by an away trip to Yorkshire.

**T**he Edgbaston result, a fixture the management team identified as a game they couldn't afford to lose, further highlighted Kent's brittle batting line-up which too often this season has relied on one player to carry them through.

Bowled out for 111 in the first innings and rescued by Martin van Jaarsveld's brave unbeaten 110 in another low score of 228 in the second, is the sort of performance that will see the side crashing straight back to Division Two next summer.

Joe Denly (21.24 average) and skipper Rob Key (28.67 average) have struggled for consistency all season opening the innings, but with a lack of options in reserve, it's been a case of selecting them every week and hoping they play their way into form.

Stevens and van Jaarsveld, both closing in on 1,000 championship runs for the summer, have held firm – although at different stages of the season – and are the only two batters averaging more than 40.

Key, who negotiated a contract extension at the end of last season, has been most disappointing. Of his 602 runs, 261 came in one knock against Durham mid-season, and that has been his only hundred in the championship thus far.



CONTRASTING FORTUNES: Kent's openers Joe Denly (left) and Rob Key (right) have struggled in the championship this season, while Darren Stevens (above) has performed well Pictures: ADY KERRY

# The mishits

**COMMENT** Kos Media sports editor **GLENN PEARSON** looks at why Kent have struggled in the championship and says their key batsmen have failed too often

A skeleton-thin squad hasn't helped and to give the players and the coaching staff their dues, they haven't moaned about a succession of injuries to key players ending any hopes of rotating the side.

**W**hen head coach Paul Farbrace joked this week that a player on a professional contract at Kent not in the team must be unlucky, there was more than an element of truth to it.

He said: "When you have four games in seven days at four different venues and only 13 players that you are picking from, that really makes it tough.

## KENT'S TOP SIX BATTING AVERAGES IN THE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

KENT	M	R	HS	Ave	100	50
Rob Key	13	602	261	28.67	1	1
Joe Denly	14	531	95	21.24	0	3
Geraint Jones	14	830	178	33.20	2	2
Darren Stevens	12	873	197	48.50	4	2
Martin van Jaarsveld	14	903	110*	41.04	2	5
Sam Northeast	14	592	71	24.66	0	3

"We joked the other day that if you're not on our bus at the moment you are pretty unlucky. Six players have been released, we have two going under the knife and that's eight of your squad. We are down to the bare bones."

How the team bounce back from the championship defeat will ultimately decide whether they remain in Division One. Key to that is for more than one player contributing and winning the key sessions, something they haven't done consistently all season.

The crucial championship game against Hampshire starts on Tuesday at St Lawrence at 10.30am.



## Bromley retain Premier title

BROMLEY have been celebrating this week after clinching the Kent Cricket League Premier Division title for the second consecutive season.

It was secured after an easy win over relegated Gore Court, who were 81 all out after winning the toss and choosing to bat.

It was one of Bromley's lesser-known talents, Thomas Mees, who shone brightest, taking superb figures of 5 for 9 from just eight overs with four maidens.

He was backed by the former England bowler Ed Giddins, who mopped up the tail with 3 for 29 to help dismiss the visitors in 27.3 overs.

Although Bromley lost skipper James Butterfill for nine, the target never looked like posing Bromley any problems and James Goodman (53 not out) and Miguel Barbosa (14 not out) steered Bromley home for a nine-wicket win.

Bromley's successful title defence is no surprise given the talent at their disposal.

In addition to Giddins, the former New Zealand Test captain Chris Harris has been a regular.

Alan Wells, once of Kent and Sussex, also played Test cricket, while Matt Dennington and Rob Ferley both have county experience.

## Captain Cath on the verge of World Cup glory with England

Picture: ADY KERRY/ COVER THE EVENT

THE biggest prize in women's rugby is just 80 minutes away for Cath Spencer as the former Folkestone player prepares to lead England out for the World Cup final on Sunday, *writes Steve Tervet*.

Having skippered her country to the Six Nations and Nations Cup titles, Spencer's ultimate quest could end Sunday night with New Zealand standing between England and the tag of world champions.

Spencer, 31, was a member of the beaten England team when the Black Ferns lifted the trophy four years ago, but she insists her side are ready to perform in front of the Twickenham Stoop crowd and TV viewers around the globe.

"It's going to be absolutely awesome," she said. "Not many people get to play for their country in a World Cup on home soil, but I can't think about it too much because it'll probably overwhelm me."

"We've all been trying not to think about the final and

New Zealand – we've had to focus on ourselves. It's a bit of a relief to start thinking about it now because it's the final a lot of people have been talking about. We're confident because we beat New Zealand in November so we know they're not invincible."

Ashford-born Spencer progressed through Folkestone's minis section before leaving in 2006 to play for Worcester and, more latterly, Bath and Bristol.

She scored England's opening try in their 15-0 semi-final win over Australia on Wednesday and today returns to the scene of her first England cap for what she hopes will be the crowning moment of her rugby career.

She said: "I was involved in the last World Cup but this feels completely different. We have a special group of players and we've been working so hard for this for the last three years."

Kick-off is at 5.15pm, with live coverage on Sky Sports 3.



FINAL: England skipper Cath Spencer



# Hess not pressing panic button yet

By DAVID PRITCHARD

GILLINGHAM'S slow start to the season may be a source of frustration for many fans, but manager Andy Hessenthaler admits it has not taken him by surprise.

Defeat on penalties at Southend United in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy on Tuesday extended the side's winless streak to six games – the club's worst start to a campaign for 12 years.

It does not necessarily tally that an underwhelming beginning hampers the rest of the season – the 1998-99 campaign finished at the play-off final – but it is still a growing concern.

The start is a far cry from the pre-season hopes of a smooth campaign ending in an automatic return to League One at the first attempt.

Nothing so far has alarmed Hessenthaler, who is keeping his cool for the moment by pointing out his side have lost just once in the league, to Lincoln, before this weekend. He has found comfort by speaking to former Gills boss Peter Taylor, whose Bradford City side were also among the pre-season favourites, but lost three of their first four games.

Hess said: "When you're one of the favourites teams raise their game. Certainly Lincoln came here and made it very difficult for us and

## Gills' slow start to season is no cause for alarm, says boss



scouts will look at that and say what you've got to do is come to Gillingham and try to frustrate them, get in their faces, make it difficult for them to play because after 20 minutes the fans get frustrated as well.

"I've spoken to Peter [Taylor] and he said that's exactly what's happened at Bradford.

"Last Friday they lost to Southend and the fans got frustrated and the players lost their confidence and ended up losing 2-0.

"I knew how hard it would be. I'm not too down, I really don't think we'll lose many games – we're too strong as a group. We've lost one game, we may only lose once in the next six, seven games."

Hessenthaler is keen for his side to play attractive football, but the mediocre run has seen him adopt a more pragmatic philosophy in the bid for improved results.

He said: "West Brom won the league under Gary Megson with 1-0s pretty much every week. They were difficult to play against, but then nicked a goal and won games 1-0, maybe we could start doing that."

Log on to [www.kentsport.co.uk](http://www.kentsport.co.uk) to find out if Gillingham got their season up and running with a win at Bury yesterday.



**COOL HEAD:** Andy Hessenthaler says the start of the season was always going to be tough, and urged his players (Danny Spiller, pictured) and fans not to be too downhearted. Pictures: ADY KERRY



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## Haines lines up full European Tour card

THE LURE of a full European Tour card is the driving force for Matt Haines as he prepares for his biggest event of the season next week, *writes Tom Howard*.

The Medway golfer, who only turned professional in May, has enjoyed a successful spell on the European Challenge Tour and has his sights set on a top-15 overall finish to qualify for the full European Tour next season.

Haines, who penned a sponsorship agreement with Nike Golf in July, is 16th in the rankings ahead of one of the tour's biggest events of the season, the Kazakhstan Open.

Although the 20-year-old has struggled to produce a consistent run of strong results in the summer, he aims to produce his best game next week to move into the all-important top-15 and avoid a trip to Qualifying School.

The Rochester & Cobham Park member was granted eight starts on the European Challenge Tour, but his success has already seen him play in 10 events. His highlight of the season was a tied second-place finish in the Saint Omer Open European Tour event in June.

He said: "I've had some highs and lows but overall I'm quite happy, but I know I can do better. I've had to learn to adapt to the differences from the amateur to the professional game and I have a lot to learn still.



Picture: ADY KERRY

**AMBITIOUS:** Matt Haines has impressed during his first season as a professional

"However, I'm still chasing a win and with the biggest event of the season in Kazakhstan next week, I'm hoping it will be there.

"I'm planning on working hard so that I don't have to go to Tour School at all. If I'm 16th, or higher, I'll have to go, but at the very worst, I'll be exempt through to final stage."

The tournament in Almaty begins on Thursday.

## World Cup success lands sports venue Euro event

TOP-CLASS modern pentathlon will return to Medway Park ahead of schedule after the newly-refurbished facility was named host of next year's European Championships.

The £11 million overhaul of the venue in Gillingham was completed just before staging the British leg of the sport's World Cup series in April.

It won praise from administrators and athletes alike, but with the Olympics coming to London in 2012, it was not thought an elite senior competition would return until 2013 at the earliest.

Portugal were due to host the European Championships next summer, but when they pulled out Pentathlon GB approached Medway as an alternative.

Cllr Howard Doe, of Medway council, felt the success of the initial event was key to the decision.

He said: "Pentathlon GB were so delighted with the World Cup they thought of us



Picture: IGOR KUPCO

**NEW FACILITY:** Modern pentathletes take part in fencing at Medway Park during the British leg of the World Cup in April

and asked if we could put it on. They came to us first and I think that's indicative of how they look at us.

"I think it's important for us, we shall see some of the athletes who will compete at the 2012 Olympics and there's tremendous interest in the sport locally. We're now being recognised as a major player

and one way or another it boosts Medway Park as a regional centre."

Modern Pentathlon is made up of five disciplines – fencing, swimming, show jumping, running and shooting – held over one day.

The European Championships will be held from July 28 to August 1.





**CUP GLORY:**  
Cath Spencer  
leads England  
into World Cup  
action tonight

## Cath flying the flag for England

ENGLAND go for rugby World Cup glory this evening with Kent's top girl hoping to lead her country to success on the biggest stage.

Cath Spencer, who was born in Ashford, spent 22 years at Folkestone RFC before moving on to play Premiership rugby, and tonight the eyes of the world will be upon the 31-year-old England captain.

The number eight scored England's first try in Wednesday's semi-final win over Australia and was also on the scoresheet when England beat tonight's opponent's, New Zealand, at Twickenham last November.

• *For the full story, see inside.*



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**THE BIG STAGE:**  
The London Club  
has hosted the  
men's European Open  
in recent years



# SOL BIDDER

By DAVID PRITCHARD

THE LONDON Golf Club will have competition from at least three other rival venues in its bid to host the 2015 Solheim Cup.

Kent on Sunday exclusively revealed in June the club, near Ash, was lining up an application for the tournament and it's now understood it must see off rival bids from other UK venues before being allowed to submit a bid next month to host the event – seen as women's golf's equivalent to the Ryder Cup.

### Deadline

With worldwide television audiences estimated at 400 million and 120,000 spectators expected across the week, it would be a considerable achievement to win the right to host the 2015 edition.

The Ladies European Tour (LET), which organises the biennial event between Europe and the United States when it is held this side of the Atlantic, have set clubs a deadline of October 29 to submit their bids. But before the London Club can apply it must first beat other interested parties in the UK. Only the winner will then go for-

## Club must fight off rivals to host ladies' version of the Ryder Cup

ward to represent the country to the LET, but it will receive the significant backing of UK Sport, which will be needed to help fund the tournament.

Pre-bids are being put together at the moment and will be considered by early October.

Kate Brewer, marketing manager at the London Club, said: "It means the UK can have one extremely solid representative. Whoever it is will get the full support of the government, which means they will be competitive."

No other club in the country has publicly declared their interest in hosting the Solheim Cup, but there are believed to be three others preparing a bid. The initial documents will be scaled down versions of the final submission, looking at aspects such as crowd capacity, quality of the course and the ability to make a profit.

After hosting the European Open on the men's European Tour in 2008 and 2009, the London Club has shown its ability to host major events. Spectator numbers at both

were also impressive, with 90,000 attending the latter, while its proximity to London and major airports also count in its favour.

Brewer said: "We're confident we have a great product here. There is a good heritage in hosting big tournaments and we are optimistic we can host an exciting tournament."

"I think we will stand up well to the other venues in the UK."

Another tick in the box would be the club's planned 130-bed hotel, which is going through planning permission at Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council.

A verdict is unlikely to be made before the bids are submitted, but would certainly help if it was approved before the LET made its final decision.

One player who knows the benefits a Solheim Cup would bring is Deal's Karen Stupples, who was in Europe's team in 2005.

She said: "It would be pretty huge. It would be terrific if it was to come there, it would be nice to see women's golf back in Kent to be honest."

## Kent deny whole squad are 'up for sale'

KENT chairman George Kennedy has strongly denied rumours that it is "open season" on the club's contracted players after the county's financial plight forced the release of fast bowler Amjad Khan.

Reports this week indicated the club were prepared to listen to offers from other counties for their contracted players, but Kennedy has denied that is the case and expects those who signed contract extensions at the end of last season will stay with Kent.

"The reports are absolute rubbish and I've been taking calls on this all week," he said. "All the players that are under contract are under contract and we have had no formal request from any player saying they want to go."

"I do understand that when a big player does go [Amjad Khan] then it can make a few a little nervous, but the situation with that is we could not go further into debt by



hanging onto a player, and that's unfortunate."

Rob Key, Martin van Jaarsveld, Geraint Jones and Darren Stevens all signed new deals towards the end of last summer to stay at Kent



**HANDS OFF:** George Kennedy says contracted players like Martin van Jaarsveld (left) are not on the market. Pictures: ADY KERRY

and would certainly attract interest from other counties, but as far as the club are concerned they are under contract and none of the players have expressed a desire to leave.

Kennedy added: "We are not

getting rid of anyone. If someone comes along and says they absolutely don't want to play for Kent then that's a different matter entirely, but that has not been the case at the moment."

"I do understand how it works though, they are young men and they want to earn as much money as they can, but at the moment as far as I am concerned they are under contract and that's that."

Elsewhere, work on the £8.2 million redevelopment of St Lawrence looks no nearer getting underway as the club continue their search for a new hotelier.

Kennedy said: "We are still working on getting this going, but the most annoying thing is that everything seems to be in place, but you go to the other side to get something signed off and someone is on holiday which is quite frustrating, but I don't think there is anything sinister in it."